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THE MAGAZINE OF SAINT ANSELM COLLEGE



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SAINT ANSELM
COLLEGE



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Maura Marshall, A.P.R.N., M.S.N., director of health services, earned the nickname "Covid Queen" for her important role in the "Return to the Hilltop" plan this year. Photo by Leah LaRiccia

Inside cover:

Dr. Gary Bouchard, English professor and executive director of the Gregory J. Grappone Humanities Institute, stands outside the future home of the institute to kick off the 33rd Shakespeare Day celebration at Saint Anselm College, held on April 23. Photo by Leah LaRiccia

This page:

The past year was a difficult one for students and teachers alike—but with the pandemic almost in the rearview mirror, our Anselmian educators have emerged stronger than ever. Photo by Leah LaRiccia

Visit the website at www.anselm.edu/portraits

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Portraits

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



COLLEGE EVENTS

Dana Center for the Performing Arts

JULY 23, 24

Aaron Tolson and Friends

JULY 30, 31

A Midsummer Night's Dream

SEPTEMBER 25

Cirque-Tacular

OCTOBER 17

Symphony NH

OCTOBER 21

Haunted Illusions with David Caserta

OCTOBER 23

Beausoleil, Anniversary Tour

NOVEMBER 6

A Tribute to Duke, Aardvark Jazz Orchestra

NOVEMBER 13

Mutts Gone Nuts

DECEMBER 3

A Christmas Carol with Gerald Dickens

DECEMBER 11

Irish Christmas in America

Letters!

*The following contribution was submitted by **Father Cecil J. Donahue, O.S.B. '50** in response to the call for sharing more hidden gems of Saint Anselm in the Fall/Winter 2021 issue. Below is one of many interesting facts shared by Father Cecil.*

For his complete list of additional hidden gems, visit www.anselm.edu/portraits.

The only known evidence of a toboggan run on campus is this photograph (shown). It must date sometime after 1923 since the passage between the south wall of the college building and the chapel (built in 1923) appears on the left side of the picture. Building the launching structure must certainly have consumed considerable time and labor and like Rome was not built in a day. Counting the steps of the ladder (at least 15) and adding on five feet for the height of the man standing at the foot of the

ladder suggests that the height of the structure must have been 18 to 20 feet. The toboggan was hauled to the



top and placed on the level launch pad while the riders got into position on the toboggan. When ready, the fellow standing at the top of the structure had the task of tipping the launch pad by raising the rear (shown raised in the picture) and getting the riders off to a jackrabbit start down the toboggan run and onto the hillside to finish on the level area at the end of the run.

Father Cecil J. Donahue, O.S.B. '50

For more letters, visit www.anselm.edu/portraits.



Dear Friends,

In May, as we approached the back-to-back celebrations of commencement for the Classes of 2021 and 2020, I reflected on how our community triumphed over three distinct yet clearly interconnected challenges we had faced since last spring.

The first was Covid-19, which disrupted our 2020-2021 academic year on the Hilltop. We made it our goal to return to campus last fall and focused energy on how to balance the safety of our community with a robust and rewarding curricular and co-curricular experience for students. We became skilled at preparing for an unpredictable virus and the issues faced by a congregate-living setting like a college campus. While far from an ideal situation, I believe we navigated the pandemic in a way that could be a case study in crisis management.

Second, many of our students faced financial hardships due to Covid. In response, we created the Anselmian Student Relief Fund to help with basic necessities. More than \$92,000 was raised by 624 generous donors, helping 45 students weather the pandemic.

And third, in the days following the death of George Floyd, we watched as our nation confronted the issue of race in America with anger, rhetoric and even violence. Here at Saint Anselm, we saw this moment as calling us to empathy and action. We believe that the human dignity of all people is foundational to our Catholic and Benedictine mission and therefore we actively advance the cause of racial equity in society. With this in mind, we as a community responded in a positive manner by creating a number of initiatives to promote dialogue, review curricula and policies, and support our work to make the campus even more inclusive.

Among the many wonderful articles in this issue of *Portraits*, you will read how we managed campus life during Covid and about one of the many programs launched in response to my call to action on racial equity. Both are examples of what it means to be Anselmian—helping others and engaging in difficult but vital conversations.

In those days before our commencement weekend, I felt joy for our students and also a sense of victory. We did it! After 15 difficult months, we were preparing once again to hold large-scale, in-person events. It reminded me how far we had come since the start of the pandemic, and it demonstrated there is little we cannot accomplish when we come together to achieve a common purpose.

Sincerely,



Joseph A. Favazza, Ph.D.
President

Photo by Leah LaRiccia

BEAUTY BOUND



Photo by Kevin Harkins

A unique coincidence of events presented a fortuitous opportunity earlier this academic year, and allowed for a very special book to find a permanent home on the Hilltop. The Limited Editions Club book of poetry by Langston Hughes, *Sunrise is Coming After While*, featuring Langston Hughes' poems selected by Maya Angelou, and six serigraph prints of collages by artist Phoebe Beasley, was purchased in collaboration with archivist and special collections librarian Keith Chevalier. It is part

of a program called *Beauty Bound*, begun at the *Alva de Mars Megan* Chapel Art Center some years ago. This new acquisition initiated the formal collaboration with the Msgr. Wilfrid Paradis Archives and Special Collections to blend the expertise of art curating and book collecting.

"When I learned this book was available, I approached college archivist Keith Chevalier about partnering together to purchase it—the book is beautiful, and ties nicely together with the humanities and many courses that have been taught

here over the years, including the renowned Paris-New York humanities-based course that focuses in part on New York's Harlem Renaissance in the 1920s and 1930s," says **Father Iain MacLellan, O.S.B. '78**, director of the *Alva de Mars Megan* Chapel Art Center. Langston Hughes was a leading figure in the Harlem Renaissance art scene.

Sunrise is Coming After While is copy 48 of an edition of 300 published by the Limited Editions Club (New York) in 1998, and was on display in the Chapel Art Center this semester as part of its spring exhibit,

Works on Paper, Including Recent Acquisitions, Selections from the Permanent Collection. The acquisition was made possible by the generosity of **Catherine (Kate) Delory Brody '78**, longtime Cappella Circle friend and patron of the Chapel Art Center Fund for acquisitions and special programs.

Each week, the Chapel Art Center hosted a “turn the page” event for the book, which was open to visitors and shared on social media. The book’s permanent home will be in the Msgr. Wilfrid Paradis Archives and Special Collections in the Geisel Library.



“This new acquisition is an example of a meaningful book reflecting the art and craft of fine bookmaking, which are the hallmarks of the Limited Editions Club imprint,” says Chevalier. “With this copy, care and attention to its production are observed. The selection of Langston Hughes’ poems by Maya Angelou make this a special book.”

Other aspects of note include the book being letterpress printed. “[This is] a printing process that impresses Langston Hughes’ poems into the paper and thus giving a depth to the words on the page,” says Chevalier. “Through the serigraph [silkscreen] illustration technique, Phoebe Beasley’s collages rise up off the paper and allow the reader to engage with their incredible complexity of shape and color.”

The collaboration between the Chapel Art Center and the Paradis Archives and Special Collections is an important one. “As it is well known, the collecting and preservation of books is an important aspect of Benedictine heritage,” says Chevalier. “Our collaboration will benefit from contextualizing the Benedictine order’s long history through both bibliographic and aesthetic lenses,” he says. ▀

2021 INSTITUTION OF ACOLYTES

On Wednesday February 10, the Feast of Saint Scholastica, **Abbot Mark A. Cooper, O.S.B. '71**, instituted two monks of the Abbey, **Brothers Titus Phelan, O.S.B. '12** and **Basil Franciose, O.S.B. '17**, into the ministry of acolyte. The ministry of acolyte is formally conferred on those men who are preparing to be ordained as priests. Instituted acolytes serve at the altar by assisting priests and deacons during the Liturgy. They may also be tasked with distributing the Eucharist at Mass and bringing Communion to the Sick.

“We are so pleased to have two of our brothers take this step toward priesthood,” said Abbot Mark. “This event is a wonderful representation of how our community continues to grow and flourish.”

Brother Titus is currently in his final year of theological studies at Boston College’s School of Theology and Ministry in Brighton, Mass. He is a native of Swampscott, Mass.

Brother Basil is currently in his second year of theological studies at Saint John’s Seminary in Brighton, Mass. He is a native of Salt Lake City, Utah. ▀



From left: Brother Titus, Abbot Mark Cooper, and Brother Basil
Photo by Father Francis McCarty, O.S.B. '10



On February 3, **Kevin Lacourse '15** was received into the monastic community as a postulant. He is a native of Chester, N.H. Please pray for Kevin as he begins his monastic life here at Saint Anselm. The monastic community is grateful to our alumni and friends for their continued prayers for vocations to our community.

Photo by Father Francis McCarty, O.S.B. '10

NURSING STUDENTS ON FRONT LINES OF PANDEMIC

As part of the curriculum, nursing students are placed in clinical rotations to gain real-world experience through their courses. Although some regular community learning sites are no longer accepting student nurses to minimize exposure to the virus, new opportunities have arisen.

In addition to, or instead of, their usual sites, this year's Community Health Nursing students were placed at local vaccination and testing facilities, such as Catholic Medical Center, Elliot Hospital, and the Nashua Department of Health. Each student participated in a Point of Distribution (POD) site, either vaccinating or testing the population for Covid-19. Many of the vaccination clinical experiences the students participated in were dedicated to populations that have health care inequities—the impoverished, minority, and elderly.

“Being a part of the solution, even though a small role, will be something us student nurses will be able to hold onto for the rest of our lives,” said **Benjamin Norris '22** about his time distributing vaccines.

According to Professor Pamela Preston, there was no hesitancy among nursing students to embrace the change and help out with vaccinations and testing; they jumped at the opportunity. “[Students are] very enthusiastic about helping out in this once-in-a-lifetime pandemic opportunity,” remarked Preston.

Meanwhile, this semester's Critical Care Nursing students are caring for Covid or suspected Covid patients in intensive care units (ICU) during their hospital clinical experiences.

While this experience has come with its own set of challenges, students are able to engage with the intense nursing interventions involved with caring for a patient on a ventilator managing multiple intravenous infusions and maintaining strict Covid precautions.

“It is a whole new world wearing

an N95 mask the entire day you are at clinical,” said Critical Care Nursing Professor Carrie MacLeod.

Nonetheless, students are eager to get out and help. “The work the healthcare community has put in to save and help the ones affected by Covid is something I am proud to be a part of,” said **Jessica Gendreau '22**.

In the classroom, professors have incorporated conversations around Covid to provide real-life examples of course concepts. For instance, Professor Caryn Sheehan's Pathopharmacology course includes information about the FDA's process for fast-tracking approval of Covid medications and vaccines.

Similarly, Professors Carrie MacLeod and Destiny Brady added content focused on the multi-system impact of Covid in lectures about caring for a critically ill patient. For the first time this spring, a virtual family communication component was added to simulation labs. Students can practice interacting with a patient's family member on Zoom or Facetime. These real-time experiences helped the students recognize the impact of Covid on nurse-patient-family communication.

The pandemic also has adjusted the nursing program's overall structure for this year. Due to the high risk of exposing vulnerable long-term care residents to the virus, sophomore nursing students in their Care of the



Elderly and Chronically Ill nursing course now start their first clinical placement in a hospital setting, rather than a long-term care facility.

In the past, the first clinical rotation for sophomore students took place in nursing homes whereas now, students embark on their clinical journey in a fast-paced hospital setting with complex patients.

“So far, clinical faculty and nursing students have adapted well,” said Sheehan, despite the new alterations.

On top of their coursework and clinical experiences, nursing students are still college students. When their shifts end, and they are done vaccinating or caring for those on ventilators, they rejoin their classmates on the Hilltop.

“My friends and I still find ways to hang out on campus, whether it is attending CABingo, eating at the C-shop, or taking walks on the trails on a nice day of course,” said **Gina Gagliardi '22**.

The pandemic has created a new sense of appreciation for healthcare workers, particularly nurses. The Saint Anselm community, however, has held a heightened respect for nurses long before Covid began.

“To me, nurses have always been heroes,” said Gagliardi. ■



Photos by Leah LaRiccia

COURSE INTERTWINES RACE AND THEOLOGY

This semester, Saint Anselm students have been discussing the construct of race and how it affects Christian theology. Professor Ward Holder's Race and Theology course has met virtually with guest lecturers and more frequently, with a group of theology students from Tumaini University Makumira in Tanzania thanks to a grant from the American Academy of Religion (AAR), and a grant from the Saint Anselm College Fund for Catholic Social Teaching.

The group of students from Tanzania are earning their degrees in theology and are taught by Professor Holder's colleague and sister Cynthia Holder Rich. The course has put the two student groups (Saint Anselm students and Tumaini students) in touch over regular intervals in the semester to discuss lectures and to converse on difficult topics.

The 24 Saint Anselm students completing their Catholic Theological Reasoning requirement with this course come from varying backgrounds and majors including sociology, English, philosophy, theology, criminal justice, business, and biology.

The class is reading works by sociologists, ethicists, historians, and biblical scholars and has tackled issues interwoven by Christianity and slavery, including examining the theological perspective of what it means when a country like the United States permits lynching.

The new course was developed by Holder following the deaths of Brianna Taylor and George Floyd. His goal is for students to better understand how racism has affected doctrine. In addition to reading a variety of writings by important figures such as James Cone and Frederick Douglas, students are also hearing from guests like Professor J. Kameron Carter, Ph.D., professor of religious studies at Indiana University, and Rev. Dr. Elieshi Ayo Mungure, the Lutheran World Federation's regional secretary for



Photo courtesy of
Professor Ward Holder

Africa, who bring new perspectives to course material. Those lectures in conjunction with the dual-class discussions are helping people see broader horizons.

Holder says the grant putting them in touch with the Tumaini students has opened doors for both groups, giving them the opportunity to see that their college experience is not the same as others in the world.

"This class has opened my eyes up to different views of race through the readings and our discussions and conversations with our peers across the world in Tumaini," says psychology major and gender studies minor **Heisha Trilla Rodriguez '22**. She was excited to take a course that brought the topic of race to the forefront.

Through the AAR grant, Holder and Holder Rich were able to set up the joint classroom sessions virtually. It will also fund travel to Tanzania if Covid allows, as well as additional research by Holder, Holder Rich, and Saint Anselm Education Professor Aubrey Scheopner Torres. This research will focus on how student exposure to the influence of race and racism on theology might impact views of race,

theology, and spirituality; as well as investigate how the insights derived from this class may suggest future pedagogical approaches that are sensitive to critical race theory and its influence on learning.

Holder shares that some of the conversations they've had in class have been difficult. He does include warnings in his syllabus counseling students to seek another course if unwilling to hear certain messages or unable to bear the uncomfortable discussions.

"One of the reasons I teach here is that Saint A's is unabashedly a liberal arts college—it says we are equipping you, preparing your mind for a lifetime of opportunities and joys and challenges; and that's going to require your mind to be stretched in a variety of ways to use a physical metaphor," says Holder. "So it's preparing students to look critically at systems we live with, to ask questions of who is benefitting and who is being put upon by such systems and recognizing that such systems are a representation of series of choices we make. Thus, realizing that coming generations can make different choices." ■

DISCUSSING JOURNALISM AND POLITICS AT THE NHIOF

The “Get Connected, Stay Connected” program has played a significant role in re-connecting alumni with Saint Anselm College and providing networking opportunities for current students. Hosted by the New Hampshire Institute of Politics (NHIOF), the program has been in place since 2014. The program was held virtually this year and took the form of a series of interviews.

“The goal of this program is to offer students involved with the NHIOF an opportunity to engage with their peers, establish connections, network, and learn more about internships and job opportunities,” said Ann Camann, deputy director of the NHIOF. “It also provides NHIOF alumni an opportunity to reflect on their experiences, share stories of their career paths, and fond memories of their time at SAC.”

Executive director of the NHIOF, Neil Levesque, welcomed **Matthew Fuller ’10** and **Connor O’Brien ’10** for each webinar to discuss current events and the impact that a liberal arts college has made on their careers.

Fuller currently covers Congress as a reporter for *Huffington Post*. Fuller was also in attendance during the January 6 riots on Capitol Hill. During a webinar titled “Covering the Capitol,” Fuller and Levesque discussed the events of the riots and his experience working on the Capitol. Matt also discussed many relevant topics surrounding media and journalism, specifically the impact that bias has made on events like the Capitol Hill riots.

Fuller also discussed his decision to go into politics and journalism. While attending Saint Anselm College, he



Photo by Gil Talbot

was a politics major who immensely enjoyed his philosophy courses. He remarked on the importance of philosophy in relation to journalism.

“We are here to tell hard truths... whether you like it or not, these are facts, we are here to convey those facts and report on the landscape of these things and the motivations of these actors, but we are not here to just report he-said she-said. Journalism is very much related to philosophy... the essential element in both is truth.”

Levesque then asked Fuller a final question about how the college should react to the protest and, more specifically, how they should advise their students to consider the riots on Capitol Hill.

“Being from both New Hampshire and Saint Anselm College, there is a sense of valuing people’s opinions, whether you are a democrat or republican,” said Fuller. “Something that needs to be added to this list is moral clarity. Professors need to be honest about this event and see it

for what it is.”

During another webinar, “On Defense and Politics,” Levesque interviewed O’Brien, who currently works for *POLITICO* as a senior defense reporter. Levesque and O’Brien discussed many topics covering the change of office between the Trump and Biden administrations. O’Brien also discussed many other issues regarding national defense, including China, vaccine distribution, and the role diversity and inclusion plays in defense politics.

Connor also mentioned his senior thesis and found that the research and development needed to complete the assignment relates to journalism as a whole.

“You develop the idea, do the research, and create the argument, then you put it through the wringer, and then you have to stand up for what you wrote,” he said. “That is a key tenet of journalism; you need to write something you can stand behind.”

ETHISCOPE PODCAST COVERS BIG ISSUES

Despite the restrictions of a pandemic world, the Center for Ethics in Society is still striving to provide the Saint Anselm College community with the knowledge and practice of ethical decision-making through the use of its podcast, entitled Ethiscope.

Ethiscope began in 2020 in response to the center's inability to hold its usual in-person events while still trying to continue to grow its audience. With an easily accessible format that you can take with you anywhere, the Ethiscope podcast's mission is to examine the deeper ethical questions in our world with dynamic, in-depth interviews with some of the sharpest minds in academia, business, civil society, and government.

"Our mission is to make our listeners more thoughtful about complex and difficult problems, particularly those relevant to our state," says Jason Sorens Ph.D., director of the Center for Ethics in Society and host of the Ethiscope podcast. "We think you'll even discover new issues and questions that you never realized existed."



The podcast typically runs a new episode every month, covering a wide range of topics in society. Past episodes and interviews have included market urbanism with limited government regulation, the ethicality of casting an uninformed vote, and the smart growth movement towards more government regulation to improve cities.

"Our society needs more opportunities for reflection and conversation about

ethics," says Max Latona Ph.D., executive director of the Center for Ethics in Society and co-interviewer on the Ethiscope podcast. "Saint Anselm College has a long history of teaching and discussing ethics, so this podcast series is really an extension of our identity, and a sharing of who we are with the world at-large."

Future episodes of Ethiscope will cover topics ranging from the concept of happiness, to environmental ethics, to freedom of speech on campus. With the entire scope of ethics in question, no topic is off the table.

"Ethiscope goes beyond the theories and methodologies of the classroom to bring in true experts on timely topics, from the causes and consequences of residential racial segregation in America today to solutions for the affordable housing crisis in many cities," says Sorens. "It's our ability to identify experts on important ethical issues and provide reasoned, critical analysis from diverse perspectives that makes Ethiscope a unique podcast." ■

COLLEGE CHOIR PERSISTS THROUGH PANDEMIC

The Saint Anselm College Choir, directed by Eric Bermani, is one of many organizations on campus that had to change how it operates this year to comply with pandemic safety guidelines. The 2020-2021 academic year choir, with 65 members, is smaller than in past years, but still is able to meet regularly and perform at Sunday masses.

Bermani spoke on what changes were necessary in order to keep the choir active: "We really had to think outside the box during this year if we wanted to have any choral structures at all. Thankfully, science has shown that a small group of choristers can sing safely as long as 1) they are masked while singing and 2) they observe social distancing."

As a result of this thinking, the decision was made to split the 65-member choir into smaller vocal ensembles, referred to as scholas. This

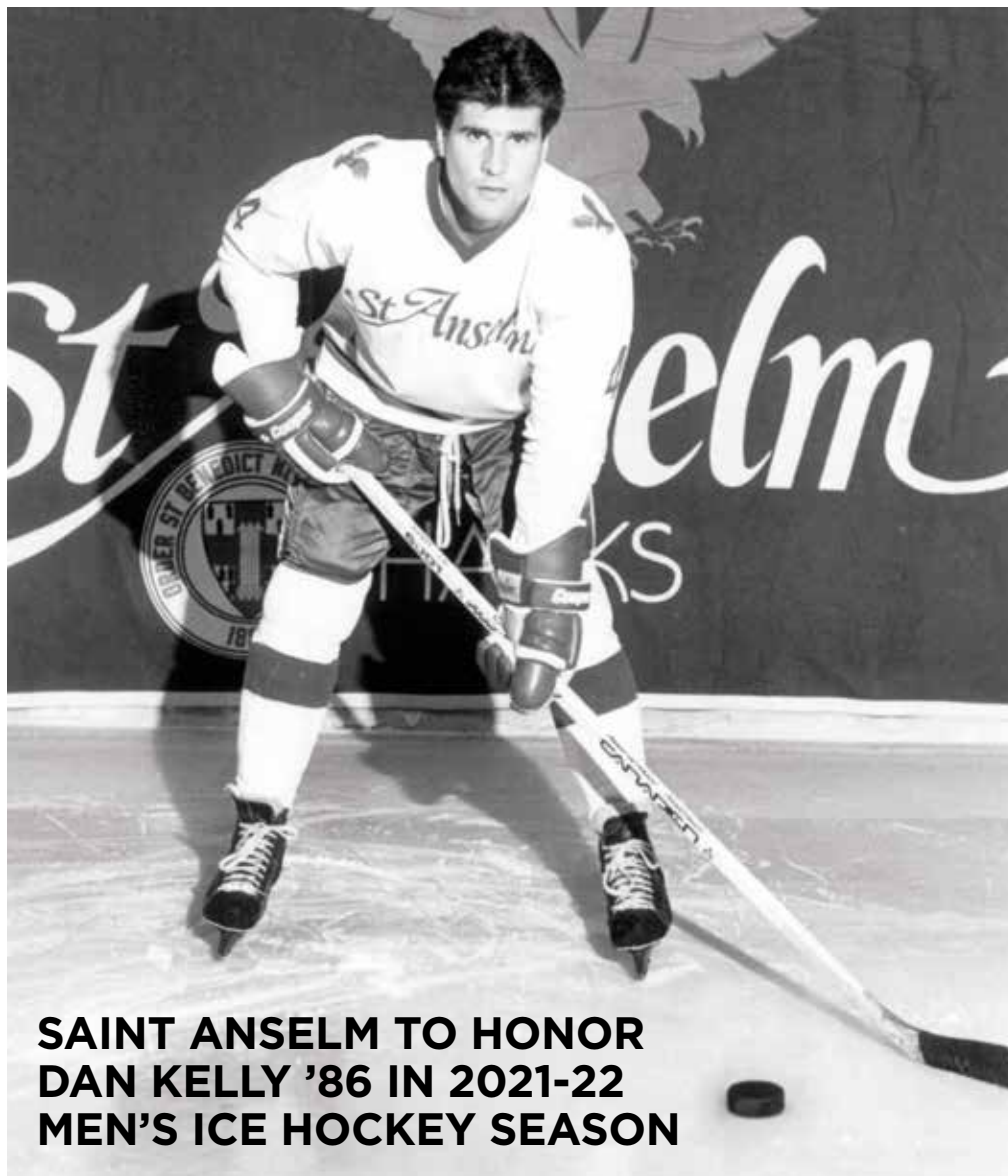


Photo by Alex Fischer '21

change gave the choir flexibility in how they organized, as it now had smaller ensembles practicing either Mondays or Wednesdays without the need for contact with the whole group. Each schola would now only perform at one or two masses during each semester, working on a rotating schedule with the rest of the choir.

Bermani expressed worry that the choir would not be able to meet at all during this academic year, saying he was thankful the choir was able to proceed with the schola option. He also expressed his gratitude for the support the choir has garnered from professional colleagues. "I am fortunate to have much external support," he says. "My colleagues in the office of campus ministry have provided extraordinary emotional support during this entire period of time and I am blessed to have a network of professional colleagues who are able to understand what the specific challenges are because they, too, are in the same situation."

Bermani hopes that the Saint Anselm College Choir will be able to return to normalcy with the beginning of Fall 2021, saying "we've weathered a significant storm and we all need the opportunity to reset." ■



SAINT ANSELM TO HONOR DAN KELLY '86 IN 2021-22 MEN'S ICE HOCKEY SEASON

Saint Anselm College is pleased to announce that the Department of Athletics will dedicate the upcoming 2021-22 men's ice hockey season to **Daniel J. Kelly, III**, Class of 1986.

Kelly played for the men's ice hockey team during his four years at Saint Anselm. Thanks in part to Dan's leadership, the team was collectively devoted to the sport and collaborated to achieve its goals. This passion for ice hockey was a way of life for Dan and his teammates.

"We worked hard and were committed to the game, to each other and to maintaining the high standards of the Saint Anselm men's ice hockey program," said Kelly during a recent

call with Head Men's Ice Hockey Coach **Larry Rocha '79**. "All of us on the team at that time were 100 percent dedicated and truly loved the game."

Kelly, who recently retired as a lieutenant from the Arlington, Mass., police department, has been courageously battling cancer over the past few years. Despite his illness, a demanding job as a public servant and unwavering love and commitment to his beloved family, Kelly has never lost his passion for the game.

"The bond between the current student-athletes on the men's ice hockey team and the alumni is very strong," said Rocha, who himself skated for the Hawks from 1975-79. "It

is special to be a part of the college's hockey family. The current team and its coaching staff are deeply moved that Saint Anselm will be honoring a member of our family and dedicating the 2021-22 season to Dan Kelly."

With the help of a major philanthropic gift from Dan's teammate **Michael Rockett '88**, former member of the board of trustees, and **Patricia Rockett '88**, the Hawks will be provided an extra boost with four sets of Under Armour uniforms next year, two for the men's team and two for the women's team. Furthermore, the men's ice hockey team will honor Dan by wearing a special patch on their jerseys throughout the season. Saint Anselm will also embed his jersey number—No. 4—on a graphic underneath the Sullivan Arena ice. Both teams also will receive replica jerseys that Dan and his team wore during his time on the team.

Serving as a team captain in 1985-86, Kelly helped Saint Anselm to 50 victories in four seasons, scoring 10 goals and 41 assists across more than 100 games. He was recently informed of the news during a Zoom call with members of the athletic department staff, on which he was joined by family and friends.

Saint Anselm will formally recognize Dan with a special celebration of his time on the Hilltop at a home game to be determined near the start of the 2021-22 season. Kelly's family members and close friends, members of the college's senior leadership team and ice hockey alumni from the more than 50 years of the men's ice hockey program will also be invited. Formal plans will be released this summer.

"This is an honor to be recognized and to be a part of a focus on the current and future Saint Anselm men's ice hockey program, one that I was so proud to be a part of," said Kelly.

Dan and his wife Kelley reside in Arlington, Mass. and have three children, Lauren, Daniel and Jack. He served as a coach to his sons, as well as many youths in Arlington, over the years and is a valued member of the community. ■

CHRISTOPHER RODGERS '93 MEMORIAL MEN'S BASKETBALL ENDOWMENT FUND ANNOUNCED

Saint Anselm College has announced the Christopher Rodgers '93 Memorial Men's Basketball Endowment Fund that will support improvements and enhancements for the Hawks nationally-ranked men's basketball program.

In a true display of generosity and Anselmian spirit, a Saint Anselm College men's basketball alumnus, with the blessing of Karen and Joseph Brisbois, recently expressed his intent to establish a fund that would celebrate the memory of his former basketball teammate and close friend, **Christopher Rodgers '93**.

A member of the Hawks basketball program, Chris was an outstanding teammate and embodied sportsmanship with his fair and generous treatment of others. He had a sense of humor that kept spirits high. Chris was beloved by all who knew him, including his family, friends, classmates, and teammates.

Before enjoying a stellar career at Saint Anselm, Rodgers was a *Boston Globe* All-Scholastic selection out of Saint Clement School in Medford, Mass. On the Hilltop, Rodgers produced an impressive senior season with the Hawks in 1992-93, averaging 10.6 points per game and earning a spot at the New England Senior All-Star basketball game following his career.

"Our son would be ecstatic knowing this endowment in his memory will continue the fellowship, hard work and discipline he garnered as a student athlete at Saint Anselm," said Karen and Joseph Brisbois. "Chris truly loved his college years here. We feel blessed and beyond pleased that our son's memory will live on through this endowment."

The establishment of this fund by his teammate, **James Mann '93**, ensures the connection will live on between Chris Rodgers and Saint Anselm Basketball.

"Chris loved Saint Anselm and, more specifically, men's basketball," said Mann, a friend, classmate and teammate on the Hawks men's basketball team. "I wanted to help establish and seed a memorial fund that both honors Chris' memory and creates a recurring revenue stream for men's basketball in perpetuity."



A contribution to this fund will pay tribute to his character and accomplishments while also supporting the basketball program that was so important to Chris.

"Chris was a valued and beloved member of the men's basketball program who developed many close relationships with his teammates and coaches during his time on the Hilltop," said Keith Dickson, long-time head coach of Saint Anselm men's basketball. "His incredible

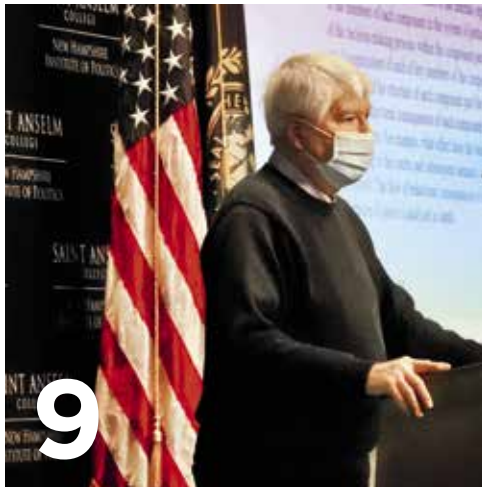
improvement during his senior year and more specifically his performance during the 1992-93 Northeast-10 Conference playoffs is legendary among his peers."

All alumni, family and friends are welcome to contribute to the Christopher Rodgers '93 Memorial Men's Basketball Endowment Fund by making a gift online or by phone. Please contact **Ashlee Demers '08**, senior associate director of Annual Giving, at (603) 641-7376; ademers@anselm.edu. ■

A RECORD-SETTING DAYS OF GIVING

During this year's Days of Giving campaign, Anselmians took time to honor the influential and often unsung heroes who inspired and influenced their time at Saint Anselm College. This year's campaign raised a record-shattering \$1,277,431 from 3,455 donors. Gifts came in from across campus and the world in denominations ranging from \$5 to \$100,000, with help from hundreds of volunteers—including alumni, faculty, staff, monks, parents, and students, who assisted by making phone calls, sending emails, taking photos, and spreading the word through social media. ■





1: Hot air balloon rides were one of many fun activities organized by the Campus Activities Board (CAB) for CAB Spring Weekend. **2:** Members of the Abbey Players cast of *Macbeth* perform a scene during the annual Shakespeare Day celebration. **3:** The 28th Annual Paul S. Coleman Volunteer Service and Service Leadership Recognition Awards Ceremony celebrated students for their dedication to and impact on Saint Anselm College and the surrounding community. **4:** Thirty-three teams participated in the 14th annual Sister Pauline Relay for Life, a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society this April, raising \$56,000 for the cause. **5:** Cookies from the Cookie Monstah Truck were worth waiting for during Hawkfest 2021. **6:** Father Francis McCarty, O.S.B. '10 calls out winning numbers during CABingo night. **7:** In back-to-back games in April, Morgan Perry '24 of the nationally ranked softball team threw a no-hitter and then fired off what is thought to be the program's first perfect game. She ranks among the NCAA Division II national leaders in numerous pitching statistics. **8:** Students enjoy the spring exhibit at the *Alva de Mars Megan Chapel Art Center: Works on Paper, Including Recent Acquisitions, Selections from the Permanent Collection*. **9:** Criminal Justice Professor John "Jack" Humphrey teaches students of the new CJ 4+1 graduate class. **10:** Kevin B. Harrington Student Ambassadors find a comfortable place to work in the Young Presidential Library in the NHIO. **11:** The magnolia trees on campus bloomed bright this spring, even on overcast days.

Photos by Jason Kolnos, Saint Anselm College Student Government Association, Jim Stankiewicz

THE Music Man

Joe Deleault, director of the Dana Center for the Performing Arts, is the Hilltop's own musical treasure.

BY KATE GRIP DENON
PHOTO BY LORI PEDRICK





Every season, the Dana Center for the Performing Arts plays host to a steady stream of talented musicians, dancers, and performers—but, for a glimpse of a true musical master, take a peek behind the scenes.

Joe Deleault, director of the Dana Center for the Performing Arts, is an award-winning international performer, composer, and session pianist who has written for and recorded with some of the best in the music industry, including Jon Bon Jovi, Carly Simon, Joan Osborne, Natalie MacMaster, and Mighty Sam McClain—not to mention several stage, television, and film credits under his belt such as *Grown Ups 2*, *On Golden Pond*, *Dawson's Creek*, PBS's *Roadtrip Nation*, and *New Hampshire Chronicle*.

The Manchester native, who was raised surrounded by music, comes from a long line of talented musicians. “My family is French and there was always music,” he says. “My dad played guitar and would invite his friends over for jam sessions, and my mom’s family is very musical, my grandmother was an accomplished pianist.”

Deleault, who plays guitar, accordion, and various percussion instruments, considers piano his main focus, and remembers exactly when he first fell in love with the instrument. “When I was in fourth grade, my friend got a keyboard, and I wanted one, and then I got one—and there it goes,” he says.

The time between receiving that fourth-grade gift and his numerous musical accomplishments today included many years of playing, touring, and learning. “When I was at Plymouth State University, I was determined to pursue music and decided to move to Cambridge, Massachusetts,” he says. Deleault soon found himself in an apartment of friends who also were musicians, and things began to take off. “My goal was to gig as much as I could, because that’s how you grow, and we found ourselves playing Cambridge and Boston clubs like the

Lizard Lounge, The Middle East, Ryles Jazz Club, and Scullers Jazz Club.”

Deleault continued to make a name for himself and collaborate with other musicians who would become extremely influential to him, including members of Boston-based band Buffalo Tom and Mighty Sam McClain. “Mighty Sam McClain was probably the biggest influence on me, and my career,” he says. For several years, Deleault toured Europe with the powerhouse Blues singer, which led to collaborating with music giants such as Jon Bon Jovi.

In 2003, a different type of collaboration took shape when Deleault’s parents told him of an opening for a technical director at the Dana Center. His father, **Arthur Deleault ’69**, a retired adjunct professor in the English department, and his mother, Francine, who worked for several years in the Campus Ministry office, knew it would be an ideal opportunity for their son. “They called me and said, ‘The environment here is really wonderful, you should really check this out,’” he says. And the rest is Hilltop history.

Over the past two decades, Deleault’s position has evolved from technical director to assistant director, and eventually to his role today as director. While he’s experienced many memorable moments on the Hilltop, he points to one in particular he’ll never forget: being

asked to compose an original song for the inauguration of Dr. Joseph A. Favazza. “As daunting as this request was, of course I was extremely honored,” he says. “My biggest fear was not keeping true to Dr. Favazza and the college.”

Once Deleault dug in, however, inspiration came quickly. He looked to his longtime music partner Ernest Thompson to write the piece’s lyrics. Thompson, who won an Academy Award for Best Screenplay for *On Golden Pond*, has worked closely with Deleault on a variety of projects for more than a decade. “I wanted influences with traditional New England music dating back to when the college was built, but also hymnal elements to honor the monastery,” he says. “Finally, I wanted the song to pay respect to Dr. Favazza and his love for Cajun music.” The result was “Soar,” and the response was a fully engaged and moved audience. “During the song, I was playing piano, and I was truly in the moment,” he says. “It is something I will always remember.”

For Deleault, who also somehow finds time to serve as the assistant coach of the women’s hockey team, there is nothing more fulfilling than working with students. “I thrive on offering programming that helps to engage students during this transformational time in their lives,” he says. “The things we’re exposing students to now, they are impactful—the arts are so powerful.”

“ I wanted influences with traditional New England music dating back to when the college was built, but also hymnal elements to honor the monastery.”

▶ To hear the inauguration song “Soar” visit <https://anselm.edu/deleault-SOAR>



LEARNING CURVE

In a year of upheaval, our Anselmian educators have had to dig deep, pivot quickly, and sacrifice much—becoming better teachers along the way. BY LAURIE D. MORRISSEY • PHOTOS BY LEAH LARICCIA

LAST AUGUST, St. Benedict's Preparatory School departed from a 150-year tradition. The all-boys Catholic Benedictine school in Newark, N.J., created a separate girls' division. The headmaster and board made a decision they had begun considering before the pandemic. Then, they figured out how to make it happen—in short order.

"Schools are about taking care of people," says **Ivan Lamourt, Psy.D. '86**, senior associate headmaster and counselor at St. Benedict's Preparatory School and a Saint Anselm College trustee. "Catholic schools have been closing left and right in New Jersey. When the all-girls Benedictine high school closed [due to financial difficulties], those students needed an option. Juniors wanted to finish their education at a school infused with the Benedictine charism. That charism includes a strong sense of community, stability, and hospitality."

It was a big change. But change—and doing what needs to be done—is what the last 18 months have been all about for Anselmians in the field of education. They became experts at "the Corona pivot," altering schedules and lesson plans at the drop of a hat. They taught in person, partly in person, and remotely.

They counseled children who were fearful of getting sick and children who lost family members to the Coronavirus. They learned new technologies, delivered school supplies to students in high-crime neighborhoods, and found 3D paper models of birds so biology students could complete dissections at home.

In emphasizing Benedictine values, Lamourt expresses what many Anselmians drew on as they taught children during the pandemic. Until recently, one thing teachers all had in common was that they saw their pupils

every day. Suddenly, there was a chasm between teacher and student that could not be crossed except via the often-shaky bridge of the internet.

"It was a tremendous blow. Teachers have felt that in our hearts," Lamourt says. St. Benedict's, like most schools, went remote when the pandemic hit. "After 9/11, we were able to be together the next day and begin to process it. We didn't have that opportunity when this happened. We had that loss coupled with a tremendous amount of fear—especially working in a disenfranchised community where we have issues of racial inequality and a digital divide."

As a counselor, Lamourt says that not seeing the students was especially hard, and the school brought students back to the building as soon as it could. "I know when you're in front of me if your face doesn't look right. 2D fools you. It's easier to hide what you're feeling on camera. We thrive on connection. We work hard on community because we see that it really works. How to stick together is taught at Saint Anselm."

His thoughts are echoed by Anselmian educators in preschools, inner city public schools, private day schools, and residential facilities. Across the board, these teachers say they missed their students and mourned the



From left: Saint Anselm College Trustee Ivan Lamourt, Psy.D. '86, senior associate headmaster and counselor at St. Benedict's Preparatory School in Newark, N.J., and David Rodriguez '00, chair of the foreign language department navigated changes this past year no one could have foreseen. Photo by Krithik Rajasegar

loss of in-person learning. The hours were long and stress levels often high. Some educators, including Lamourt, contracted Covid-19. But there have been positives too. They discovered the incredible resilience of children and became better problem solvers. They came up with innovations they never would have imagined. Across the board, they say they learned new ways of teaching and believe new technologies will benefit the world of education long after the pandemic is over.

MAKING THE BEST OF A BAD SITUATION

Zachary Camenker '16 comes from a family of teachers: His mother teaches preschool and his grandfather taught high school. As eventful as their careers were, it's a safe bet they never had a year like Camenker's. His fifth year of teaching coincided with a historic global pandemic.

"In this profession, you're taught that you'll need to adjust, and you do. But we've had to adjust constantly," says the seventh-grade language arts teacher at Ross A. Lurgio Middle School. The Bedford, N.H., school operated on a hybrid teaching schedule during most of the pandemic. He taught in the classroom five days a week, distanced and masked, with alternating student cohorts. Quarantined students were taught remotely. Meetings with faculty and parents were on Google Meet.

Like his colleagues, Camenker saw an increase in students' stress levels. "You get into the profession to support kids," he says. "That means supporting their social and emotional needs as they are on this roller coaster. For kids who worry to begin with, there's more to worry about."

As a language arts teacher, he finds reflective writing and creative journaling are not only great learning opportunities, but ways for students to express their feelings about what the pandemic has been like.

"The nature of sharing is paramount to the subject area. We read a dystopian short story and discuss how a character's



experience relates to theirs. Reading a Ray Bradbury story, we talk about censorship: What would it be like if information about the Coronavirus is censored years from now? It's impressive how they can express their thoughts about these issues and find relevance to their lives."

Ed Joyce '94 supervises Camenker and around 100 other staff members as principal of Ross A. Lurgio Middle

School. Due to social distancing guidelines from DHHS, only half the students attended school each day until mid-February, resulting in smaller classes. Although students disliked many parts of the pandemic, Joyce says they enjoyed increased teacher attention and camaraderie: "The kids loved it, and it allowed us to really connect with them. Instead of getting off the bus and socializing in the hallway, students went

directly to a homeroom with kind of a mini-family.”

He calls it their “Bob” year: the best of a bad situation. “So many parts of middle school are important to social development. When I talked to parents, it wasn’t the academic level they were concerned about so much; they were worried about their kids feeling isolated. Our guidance department works extra hard, doing a lot of checking in with students. We’ve made great progress, but the pandemic has taken a toll on students’ socialization.”

Teachers worked harder than ever under extreme stress, Joyce says. “We redesigned our educational model three or four times. That’s a herculean task. I’ve been as candid and honest as possible with my dedicated staff, and empathize as much as possible. I try to keep them well informed regarding potential changes to guidelines or practices.”

Ross A. Lurgio Middle School is near Saint Anselm College, and Joyce has had many Anselmians on his staff or completing field experience in his 14 years as principal. “A sense of higher purpose abounds at the college,” he says. “You learn to think about who you are, what you value, and what your contribution to the world will be. The teachers who come out of there see it as a vocation, a calling. You’re lucky to have educators like that on your team.”

Abigail Dickey ’21 could be speaking for any of the 30 student interns completing their full-time teaching placement in the spring of 2021. Dickey, a double major in history and secondary education, spent part of her senior year at Ross A. Lurgio Middle School, often working alongside Camenker.

“This has been one of the hardest yet most rewarding academic experiences I’ve had at Saint Anselm,” she says. “This is not the experience I’d been anticipating. Balancing student teaching, my classes, the pandemic, and trying to enjoy my final semester on the Hilltop has definitely been a big challenge. I’m learning from my clinical educator every day, but I’m also taking two classes

and completing my Teacher Candidate Assessment Performance. In a way, I can relate to my students as being a student during a pandemic and struggling with remote learning.”

Despite the unusual situation, Dickey says it has made her even more excited to become a teacher: “Everyone tells you you’ll experience exponential growth during your student teaching. Despite Covid-19, this growth is happening.”

The way students have handled the situation inspires her. “They show up to school ready to work and learn. In fact, they were eager about coming back to school 100 percent of the time,” she says.

The rewards of being a teacher are even greater in this time, Dickey believes. “I think, more than ever, people realize how important education and access to education are.”

MASTERS OF MODALITY

Sue Downer ’83 sits at a shiny lab bench, her back to a 15-foot-long whiteboard. The image projected onto the board describes how to calculate acidity in the different regions of a titration curve—one of the skills her AP chemistry students must master, especially if they are going on to college and science careers. Souhegan High School Classroom 223 looks as it usually does, with a periodic table of the elements front and center... except that Ms. Downer’s friendly smile is hidden by a blue mask and some of her students are—literally—miles away.

In 25 years as a science educator, Downing says teaching during the pandemic is “by far the weirdest and most challenging” situation she has encountered. She taught in three modalities: fully

“You learn to think about who you are, what you value, and what your contribution to the world will be.”

—ED JOYCE ’94



From left: Abigail Dickey ’21, Ed Joyce ’94, and Zachary Camenker ’16 all thank their time on the Hilltop for helping prepare them for how to navigate the challenges of teaching during the pandemic.

remote with students on Zoom, teaching from home with some students on Zoom and some in the classroom, and in person with some students remote. It required flexibility, creativity, and many 12- to 13-hour workdays.

"I'm very committed to having students *do* science, not just absorb information. I use hands-on activities to allow them to discover and apply concepts," the veteran teacher says. "Without these activities, I've had to find other engaging ways to explore a concept. I've rewritten my entire curriculum to match the modality we're in."

Downer's AP chemistry students met remotely on four days and came to the lab in person once a week. They could not all be in the room at once, so she ran the lab three times on each of those days. She also ran at-home labs, with students organized into virtual breakout rooms. "I'd go from room to room watching them do the experiments, using household items, sometimes with a brother or sister doing the mixing," she says. "They don't have beakers in their kitchens, so I'd convert grams into tablespoons."

Assessing students' work was one of many challenges. "You can't give a test when half the students are at home and have access to the internet, cell phones, and siblings," she says. "We've had to look at formative assessment in a different way."

Joseph Parodi-Brown '06, a Spanish teacher at Marianapolis Preparatory School in Thompson, Conn., faced similar challenges. "Forty percent of our students went home to other countries and couldn't return to school physically when we came back at the start of the school year. Synchronous classes are really important to us. It was a challenge to schedule classes for a time that wouldn't be the middle of the night for those students," he says. Yet, like Downer, he chooses to look for the good. "The silver lining is that we took the opportunity to see what really matters and reassess what we're doing. How will we move forward



A cheerful "Welcome Back" sign greeted the students of Ross A. Lurgio Middle School in Bedford, N.H., when they returned to full-time in-person learning in the second semester of 2021.

with what we now know?"

As always, Downer strives to be attuned to her students' emotional well-being. "Zoom exhausts kid," she says. "It's more stressful when they aren't able to do the work with their peers. And when they're home working remotely, their day never changes. I cut my 100-minute periods to 80 minutes because of Zoom fatigue."

Downer worries school might be a scary place to kids who haven't been there physically for a year and a half. She prefers to focus on the positive aspects of gaining new technology and finding new ways to assess students' learning: "I hope we'll ride that train and change education for the better."

CREATIVITY IS THE KEY

Colleen Reilly '20 feels at home in a class full of kids. Her mom teaches kindergarten, and Reilly grew up volunteering in classrooms. At Saint Anselm, she had classroom experience starting in sophomore year.

"I never expected that, when I got my first real teaching job, it would all be on the computer," she says.

Reilly teaches second grade in Worcester, Mass., where she grew up. Teaching in an inner city school was

exactly what she wanted, despite the challenges of a high proportion of economically disadvantaged families. Her students come to her below grade level.

School started fully remote in September and moved to a hybrid format at the end of March. Initially, low access to technology was a barrier. Many children lack support at home, or are in charge of siblings. "Sometimes I hear things I don't want to hear," Reilly says. "Or a kid shuts off the computer because he doesn't want me to know what's going on in his house."

Being innovative is crucial. "At Saint Anselm, you learn to be a problem solver. I have to find ways to make my students look forward to being on a computer for six hours." She cites a phonics lesson that just wasn't going anywhere until she had the students make the shapes of the letters with their bodies—and joined them, on Zoom.

Reilly believes the culture of Saint Anselm College prepared her for this responsibility. "Saint Anselm is such a place of belongingness. I need to provide these kids not just with academics but with community. I want them to know we're a classroom and they belong here, even if they're on a computer. At the end of the day, at least I know that I cared for them and gave them a place to belong."

SUPPORTING STUDENTS AND PARENTS

For **Elizabeth Parent '11**, the pandemic had an unexpected upside. When she was laid off by a public school early in the pandemic, she needed another job. She found one she liked even better. "Starting a new job in a pandemic is hard, but I love it. I feel like I'm supposed to be here," she says.

"Here" is New England Pediatric Day School, in Billerica, Mass., where her students, aged 3-14, are nonverbal and have severe disabilities. The special education teacher meets with them in their rooms, where she focuses on keeping their senses engaged and giving them access to communication through technology. She wears a surgical gown over her street clothes as well as an N95 mask, goggles, and gloves—all of which are changed several times in a day.

"The kids' health is fragile, but being six feet apart simply is not possible," Parent explains. Hearing and vision difficulties make remote learning impractical, but group sessions are out.

At first, she felt nervous about being in close contact. Now, precautions are second nature. "We've had positive cases at the school, but, thankfully, not extremely severe," she says, adding that she has been exposed and quarantined many times. "The holiday surge in cases was especially stressful; by December, a lot of us had hit a pandemic wall."

As usual, Parent finds the upside: Teaching one-on-one for safety reasons allowed her to have relationships with them that she wouldn't have had in a group setting.

If her students' needs are complex, so are the needs of their families. Due to the pandemic, family visits to the facility are limited. Parent recalls a mother feeling guilty when she missed a scheduled FaceTime call because she was overwhelmed by pandemic-related issues: "I told her I understood. Parents are doing the best they can, but their lives have been turned upside down."

"I have to find ways to make my students look forward to being on a computer for six hours."

—COLLEEN REILLY '20

FINDING A NEW BEAT

MUSIC AND ART EDUCATORS HAVE HAD THEIR WORK CUT OUT FOR them this past year, and no one knows this more than **Ryan Burns, D.M.A. '07**, director of music for the Pomfret School in Pomfret, Conn., and **Michael Akinlosotu '18**, a music production instructor with the Indivisible Art Collective in Washington, D.C.

For Akinlosotu, who teaches marginalized youth, the inability to be in the presence of students, combined with technological issues, have made teaching difficult. Akinlosotu helps students create their own original music, including everything from teaching them how to prerecord sounds to editing audio to meet radio volume standards. He sees firsthand the power music has on students. "[It] gives kids a fun, creative outlet ... to express themselves in ways they can't through natural language," he says.

As a student, Akinlosotu worked in the Meelia Center for Community Engagement, where he discussed music and life solutions with youth in detention centers, and taught basic coding in python, a primary coding language, to underrepresented high school youth. This experience helped him navigate the challenges of teaching during the pandemic. "Teaching music production allowed me to get better as a musician, it helped me get better at adapting to different learning styles and speeds, and to be more aware of people's feelings and situations to meet them where they are."

In addition to being director of music at the Pomfret School, Burns is program coordinator for the JOY! Conservatory Program through the University of Connecticut. The program allows area middle and high school students to pursue private music lessons, and oversees all musical activity at the Pomfret School. He also directs its honors vocal chamber ensemble and teaches private voice lessons among other electives.

The Pomfret School has been following a hybrid learning model, with Burns' duties being split between in-person and remote. "Technology cannot replace the human connection of being in the same space with another person," he says. Still, with the alternative being no music at all, this is the preferable option. "All of us, young and old, students and teachers, need ways to express ourselves now more than ever—the arts provide such an essential medium to do that."

Burns attributes his time at Saint Anselm to his career in the arts: "If it were not for the Creativity course I took ... I am not sure I would have ever made the decision to change paths and pursue the arts full time."

—Alex Fischer '21



Nikki Amara Myers '93 is in her fifth year as a school counselor at Fontbonne: The Early College of Boston, a Catholic all-girls college preparatory high school with a student body of about 230 students from 35 communities surrounding Milton, Mass.

"Being a school counselor in a school this diverse is exhausting work but wonderful," she says. "Worries about work are always there, but now it's much harder. Polarization became obvious regarding remote versus in-person learning; I worry constantly about students, faculty, staff, and myself. I get up in the middle of the night and make notes about students, issues that need my immediate attention, and how I'm going to do it all, and do it well." She had to quarantine three times, and once from her own family.

Myers saw an increase in mental health issues and emotional dysregulation, affecting motivation, academic performance, and self-care. Students sometimes acted out, opting for behav-

iors unlike them as a result of feeling anxious, bored, overwhelmed, and isolated. Unfortunately, in virtual meetings, she says, some students don't put the camera on because they don't want to show their home or life outside school. It can feel like a violation of privacy.

The six-foot rule can be tough for a school counselor. Myers meets with students wearing a mask, and sitting behind a sneeze guard. "My office is small, so, at all times, the student might be sitting in the doorway. Not ideal when your conversation is confidential," she says.

She meets with students in person and virtually, before school, during lunch, and as needed after school, evenings, and weekends. "I'm always checking on my students to make sure they're OK. I spent hours last spring talking remotely with a student who tested positive along with her whole family. She was sick, sad, and scared. Fontbonne rallied around the family, and we did everything possible for the student to graduate on time."

MORE THAN A TEACHER

For student teachers, who will soon be entering the real world, Dianna Gahlsdorf Terrell, Ph.D., associate professor and education department chair at Saint Anselm, feels this past year has enhanced students' capacity to be empathetic teachers.

"They may not agree, but I think this challenge has brought out the best in them," she says. "The pandemic has laid bare the reality that schools and teachers fill many roles for children, adolescents, and young adults that go far beyond academic instruction," Terrell says. "Teachers are getting to know the realities of their students' lived experiences and are feeling acutely by proxy the traumas school-aged children are enduring due to the pandemic."

Terrell regularly talks with seniors in her capstone class about how the pandemic will continue to fundamentally reshape the profession. "I am truly impressed by the ways the Saint Anselm teaching interns have stepped up to this challenge. They have always exhibited a mature, reflective, and professional presence in the K-12 classroom. They're focused on the most important goals and they're committed to their colleagues, their own students." ■

"I'm always checking on my students to make sure they're OK."

—NIKKI AMARA MYERS '93

KEEPING KIDS FED

WHEN SCHOOLS SHUT DOWN IN MARCH 2020, THE first thing that went through the mind of **Cheri White '83, M.S., S.N.S.**, was “we still need to feed kids.” The administrator of the office of nutrition programs and services at the New Hampshire Department of Education in Concord, N.H., knew she and her team had their work cut out for them as the state, and the world, struggled to make sense of what was happening with Covid-19. Yet the motivation was strong: making sure kids didn’t go hungry. “This was important now more than ever when everything was shutting down, parents were out of work, and everyone was home,” she says. “Our biggest concern was how we were going to get food to those kids.”

The answers came with lots of long hours, numerous conversations, and sheer grit. “Schools are used to thinking creatively, and educators are a very collaborative group, and we were on the phone day and night with administrators, guidance counselors, teachers, listening to problems, hearing about creative solutions, and then getting to work to support everyone in any way possible,” she says.

For White and her team, this involved countless hours coordinating with the USDA to temporarily amend rules and regulations concerning food delivery and food consumption within the public schools. “There are very strict guidelines on when and where children can eat within schools, and rightly so” she says. “We worked diligently with the USDA—whose main concern also was to keep children fed—on how to make that happen.”

In many situations, this resulted in setting up lunch pickup locations for parents, as well as utilizing bus drivers to deliver food to families on what was formerly their regular bus routes. It also included expanding meals from just lunch to include breakfast, and partnering with other agencies and community organizations to offer snacks and dinner as well.

While White can’t compare how many more meals were served this year to last year, she can say that 13.5 million meals were provided to kids in New Hampshire this past year. But White is quick to shift any praise for this success to the local schools. “We are the guidance people,” she says. “The real heavy lifting was done by the food service staff at every school.”


White, who can’t remember having a job that didn’t involve food (her first paid job was picking raspberries at age 12), credits her ability to navigate difficult situations,

namely the one she’s been handling for the past year, to her liberal arts education on the Hilltop. The biology major who earned her master’s degree in nutrition at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, is not shy about admitting college was hard work. “I never was the best student, but I was one of the hardest workers, and I think Saint Anselm really shaped who I am.”

She credits the faculty for this, particularly **Professor Emeritus Robert Normandin '50** of the biology department. “I worked for Professor Normandin inputting test scores into the computer—it was my first experience with a computer,” she says. “My senior year, he asked what I was planning on doing after graduation and I told him I was going to be a chef—but I admitted this career path probably made my biology degree a waste.” His answer surprised her, and sticks with her today. “He just looked at me and said, ‘Cheri, what do you think we’ve been teaching you for four years? All we’re trying to do is teach you how to think—what you do with that is completely up to you.’”

—Kate Grip Denon





The college's three-part
webinar series delved
into difficult topics of
race and law enforcement,
resulting in meaningful
conversations and
demonstrating core
Anselmian values.

By Paul J. Pronovost '91
Photos by Gil Talbot

REIMAGINING

In a brainstorming session of the *Portraits* advisory committee last fall, **Fr. Anselm Smedile, O.S.B. '93**, had a story idea for a future issue of the magazine.

The subject Fr. Anselm suggested was on people's minds, something that had been in the headlines for months as protests in cities across the United States revealed yet again the deep divide over racial equity and law enforcement. It was timely, it was topical, but there was a problem.

It could be explosive.

Depending on your point of view, very different emotions and opinions are engendered by race relations and police interactions with people of color. It is a topic people either stay clear of discussing or they career headfirst into angry declarations.

At Saint Anselm, however, students learn from the first days of core humanities classes how to engage in a healthy discourse in a civil manner. It seemed possible to have this sensitive and important conversation on the Hilltop.

"I thought it would be good to have a substantive article that would stay on people's coffee tables, that would be intriguing enough and provocative enough that people would read and really think about and talk about and share outside of the Saint Anselm community," he said. "Something that you might expect from an institute of higher learning and also from a Catholic, Benedictine college."

Catholic, Fr. Anselm explained, because Catholics believe in the dignity of the human person and are called to rise above all divisions and conflicts between people and to form humanity into a single family, to build a civilization of love and peace. Benedictine because Saint Benedict, at the end of his life, had

a vision of the "whole world and all its peoples in a single ray of light."

Fr. Anselm's suggestion soon took shape as "Reimagining Justice," a program with the goal of gathering people with diverse perspectives to discuss the sensitive topic of race and law enforcement in an honest and productive manner.

"Reimagining Justice" was developed by the Gregory J. Grappone Humanities Institute in partnership with the Anselmian Network for Racial Justice, the Saint Anselm Criminal Justice Department, and the Office of Alumni Relations.

The three-part webinar series featured a panel of police officers, prosecutors and defense attorneys, community activists, social workers, and a New Hampshire Supreme Court justice as they considered how to "reimagine" policing practices and how the justice system can better serve all people.

Among the speakers were alumni **Stephanie Dahlberg '14**, a community social worker and Medicaid housing coordinator; **Jim Testaverde '97**, deputy police chief for the Nashua Police Department; and **Rob Browne '95**, the director of safety and security at Saint Anselm College and the former police chief of the Goffstown Police Department.

"Racial justice is an extremely important conversation to have because most people in America don't even realize the challenges that millions of Americans endure," Browne said. "Having these discussions brings awareness, understanding, and differing points of view so that we can all be able to walk a mile in one another's shoes. I think the conversations don't occur with enough frequency because we are afraid of hearing that there are problems in America, in policing, with

SESSION 1 First Encounters: Police Stops and Race

"I think the conversations don't occur with enough frequency because **WE ARE AFRAID OF HEARING THAT THERE ARE PROBLEMS IN AMERICA**, in policing, with social disparities and inequities that are difficult to talk about."

—Rob Browne '95

social disparities and inequities that are difficult to talk about."

Browne was a panelist during the first session, "First Encounters: Police Stops and Race." He pointed out the Goffstown police have a good relationship with the community they serve, and there are many positive interactions with police across the country, but he acknowledged there is a general distrust of police in some communities in America.

"I came from a community where our police force was cherished and relied upon to help," he says. "It is so foreign to have the overwhelming feeling that police are mistrusted for the actions of a small percentage of negative interactions people have had. I am thankful for my time in service to my community where I believe I made positive differences in the lives of people."

Following the death of George Floyd last May, as images were shared of Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin restraining Floyd with a knee on his neck, protests ignited across the country, and angry exchanges erupted on social media. At that time, Saint Anselm

JUSTICE

College President Dr. Joseph A. Favazza called on the Anselmian community to live the Benedictine values of hospitality and compassion, and to channel the rising passions into civil discourse and communitywide action.

In response, the Anselmian Network for Racial Justice was formed as a way to cultivate empathy among students, faculty, and staff, as well as a commitment to review institutional practices and policies to ensure the Saint Anselm community is both just and equitable.

In speaking out about racial inequity after Floyd's death, Dr. Favazza cautioned people not to fall into the trap of stereotyping.

"To be clear, I have a deep respect and appreciation for members of law enforcement, who in the heat of this social movement are often painted unfairly with broad and negative strokes," Dr. Favazza said. "As Anselmians, we have a responsibility to understand the many dimensions engendered when the sensitive topic of race in America is discussed, and we must approach discourse with open minds and hearts to better understand all aspects of our world, and all perspectives within our community."

With an audience of more than 200 people tuning in on Zoom, the first "Reimagining Justice" discussion featured a keynote address by former Boston Police Commissioner and Massachusetts secretary of public safety Kathleen O'Toole, who pointed out what people see on television is not what police work is all about. In fact, the majority of time is spent interacting with the community and helping vulnerable people in a variety of ways. Her experience working as a patrol officer in the late 1970s shaped her philosophy on the best ways to conduct community policing.

To her, it is important to have a wide range of social training for law enforcement—focusing on prevention rather than reacting to crime—and to have a police force that demographically represents the community it serves.

O'Toole said there needs to be work on the policing model, but it has to be wholistic and not reactionary.

"We've never faced greater challenges than we're facing right now," she said. "If we can harness our energy and our



SESSION 2 Keeping Watch: Surveillance and Race

"We have a long and successful history of preparing people to work in vital frontline fields like policing and nursing and teaching. And what every Saint Anselm graduate shares in common is a core of studies in the **FOUNDATIONS OF HUMAN LEARNING.**"

—Dr. Gary Bouchard

resources, continue to participate in this dialogue, but then get out there and roll up our sleeves and make a commitment to our communities, I think we can really make a huge difference."

The second session, "Keeping Watch: Surveillance and Race," featured keynote remarks from Julian Jefferson, a staff attorney with the New Hampshire Public Defender, where he represents indigent clients accused of crimes ranging from misdemeanors to acts of homicide.

Reflecting on his own feelings following the death of George Floyd, and sharing personal stories of being profiled as a person of color in New Hampshire, Jefferson stressed the importance of engaging in conversations that could make people feel uncomfortable.

"We as a society have an obligation to nurture and protect. Nothing about

our conversation today is going to be easy, and that's OK, too," Jefferson said. "This is a hard and complex problem—a problem that requires us to bring our full measure of focus, ability to listen, and have goodwill."

At several moments during the "Reimagining Justice" sessions, there was tension among the panelists as differing perspectives and experiences were shared. As the dialogue continued, however, the panelists moved toward common ground. In the first session, the speakers continued to speak with each other and the audience long after the formal 90-minute presentation had ended, with the panelists spending another 45 minutes answering every question from the audience.

Having such conversations may be difficult, but they are critically important,

said Dr. Gary Bouchard, a longtime professor of English and the executive director of the Grappone Humanities Institute. Acknowledging the subject of race and police is a sensitive topic and one that can fuel passions from different perspectives, Dr. Bouchard said the Saint Anselm community is not afraid to engage in the discussion.

“We have a long and successful history of preparing people to work in vital frontline fields like policing and nursing and teaching. And what every Saint Anselm graduate shares in common is a core of studies in the foundations of human learning,” he said. “It’s a core that has changed with time, and one that nearly every student at one time or another has complained about, but then, three, six, or 10 years after graduation they discover it’s not the courses in their major that are necessarily helping them succeed and progress professionally and personally. It’s that core—their rootedness in the humanities, their confrontation of the big questions about life that they thought they were done answering on the final exam. So, we have this population of graduates who work in areas like law enforcement and social work who are able to speak eloquently from their experience and their foundation in the humanities about the problems of justice we are now facing in this country.”

Following the “First Encounters” and “Surveillance and Race,” the final session was titled “New Directions in Policing.”

The Honorable John T. Broderick, Jr., retired chief justice of the New Hampshire Supreme Court, gave the keynote address. He emphasized the importance of understanding mental health issues as they intersect with law enforcement, pointing out that police officers are often the first responders for a wide spectrum of social work situations.

He also discussed the impact of job-related stress on police officers and the fact that suicide accounted for more deaths among law enforcement than any other line-of-duty cause.

Dr. Liana Pennington, an associate professor of criminal justice and former attorney at the New Hampshire Public Defender, was one of the organizers for “Reimagining Justice.” She said bringing in a diverse group of speakers was

important to the success of the program, and the conversations hit on topics that are currently being debated in the New Hampshire Statehouse and elsewhere in the nation.

“Our goal was to have productive discussions where not everyone agreed with each other, but where there was respect and open-mindedness,” she said. “Saint Anselm College has a reputation for being a place where different views are respected and valued. Our objective was to discuss these difficult issues involving policing and race, as our program stated, ‘in light of core Anselmian values such as engagement with the community, the pursuit of justice in all forms, and the fostering of human understanding.’”

Fr. Anselm is hopeful that “Reimagining Justice” is a beginning—not only of an important conversation but also of an examination of how the college can consider bringing key disciplines together, such as sociology and social work with

criminal justice. Graduates with a diverse skill set could be valuable resources in a police department.

“If I’m a police chief, I would really want to hire a Saint Anselm grad because the Saint Anselm way of approaching (police work) is different and probably more effective than what other schools might offer,” he said.

Like Dr. Bouchard, Fr. Anselm believes the foundational Saint Anselm education and experience can prepare people to have engaging and respectful conversations, even on topics as difficult as race and policing.

“You go to the alumni awards dinner every year and all of those speakers get up and they talk about how it was the liberal arts courses, theology, philosophy, English, and that was what influenced how they approached whatever they were doing that had risen to a level the alumni community is recognizing them for their achievements,” Fr. Anselm said. ▀



SESSION 3 New Directions in Policing

“Our goal was to have productive discussions where not everyone agreed with each other, but where there was **RESPECT AND OPEN-MINDEDNESS.**”

—Dr. Liana Pennington

Saint Anselm College celebrated the commencement of the Class of 2021 on May 15, marking the first large-scale event held on campus since February 2020, as well as the first commencement celebration for Joseph A. Favazza, Ph.D., as president.

Photo by Leah LaRicca







HER AMONG US

The hard work, determination, and selflessness of these seven individuals ensured the “Return to the Hilltop” plan became reality.

BY KATE GRIP DENON
PHOTOS BY LEAH LARICCIA

Maura Marshall, A.P.R.N., M.S.N.

DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES

When you mention Maura Marshall's name to anyone on campus, the immediate reaction is a smile. And rightly so. It is, in large part, due to the tireless work of this one superwoman that all of us on the Hilltop were able to

return to campus, and resume a life as close to normal as possible during the roller-coaster year of the pandemic.

Marshall, who has worked for Saint Anselm since 2007, and as director of health services since 2009, oversees medical care, counseling, health education, and the college's center for sexual violence on campus, The Harbor. She also is the chairperson of the college health committee and the alcohol and

other drug committee. Her favorite role, she admits, is that of nurse practitioner, where she provides medical care for students in health services. In March of 2020, however, her responsibilities expanded exponentially as she began overseeing the Covid-19 lab, testing, isolation and quarantine for students—a role that quickly garnered her the nickname “Covid Queen.”

When she looks back over the past



Maura Marshall, A.P.R.N., M.S.N.

year and half, she remembers well what it felt like to be sending students home in the middle of the spring 2020 semester. “I was really sad,” she says. “A lot of people thought we were going to bring the students back to finish the semester and attend commencement, but I knew that was probably not going to happen. I was proud of our student affairs team and impressed at how the students rallied together, especially the [seniors], to make

the best of their last days on campus and celebrate all of the senior traditions in such a short period of time.”

The feeling of sadness quickly transitioned to determination as Marshall, along with the senior leadership of the college, got to work creating the plan for what would become known as “Return to the Hilltop.” Marshall says, “The plans for the fall started almost immediately in April. I remember sitting

“ it was imperative we identify students who had Covid as soon as possible **BEFORE IT SPREAD** and caused outbreaks.”

—MAURA MARSHALL, A.P.R.N., M.S.N.

down with Bill Furlong, vice president and CFO; Alicia Finn, vice president for student affairs and dean of students; and Dr. Favazza, and they looked at me and said, “We need to bring students back to campus in the fall—what do we need to do to make that happen?”

Marshall remembers those early days as a flurry of meetings, research, consulting, and community outreach. “We had about seven different working groups all strategizing how we could bring students back to campus safely,” she says. “I do think I may have been a member of every single group, and everyone was looking to me for guidance. We needed to evaluate every space on campus for distancing, we needed resources for disinfecting, PPE, options for remote learning, isolation and quarantine space, and Covid testing available on campus.”

It quickly became clear a return to the Hilltop would not be possible without the ability for rapid testing of students. “Due to the Covid virus being so contagious and presenting in people as asymptomatic carriers, it was imperative we identify students who had Covid as soon as possible before it spread and caused outbreaks,” she says. “When we decided to move all students back to campus in the fall, we knew we had to test everyone on move-in and attempt to create a ‘bubble,’ and we were extremely fortunate to acquire our Sofia 2 rapid antigen analyzer.”

Obtaining Sofia 2 was not without hiccups, and would not have been possible without Daron Montgomery, director of athletics. “We were promised two analyzers before the students moved in, but then they were taken by the government agencies to control the deaths in long-term care facilities,” she says. “Thankfully, Daron was able to

utilize his professional contacts to obtain a Sofia 2 analyzer that became our lifeline to staying open.”

While there were a few more bumps in the road, Marshall is happy to look back at this past year now almost completely in the rearview mirror, and marvel at the teamwork of everyone on campus. “When I outlined everything that was needed to bring the students back, and keep them on campus, and having full support from administration, I knew, with hard work, we could make it happen,” she says.

Still, “making it happen” would not have been possible without the grit and determination of Marshall. “In October, while testing in Sullivan Arena, which was set up like a classroom, I asked why the ice wasn’t in yet, and I was told that they didn’t think we would make it this far,” she says. “That made me even more determined to make it happen—I’m not afraid of Covid, and I’m not afraid of hard work.”

Daron Montgomery

DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

If you’ve ever walked anywhere on campus with Daron Montgomery, director of athletics, you know he moves at lightning speed. His quick reflexes and purposeful stride help him cover a lot of ground, fast, usually while juggling several other jobs along the way. It’s no wonder then, this same quick thinking and swift reaction time, combined with a natural ability for building relationships, helped the college obtain crucial rapid testing equipment, Sofia 2—without which the college would not have been able to bring students back to campus for the 2020-21 academic year.

Montgomery, who oversees the day-to-day operations of 17 varsity sports, 16 head coaches, and a program encompassing 480 student athletes, found himself in April 2020 leading the planning task force to review all scenarios for the fall of 2020. “We recommended to the Saint Anselm College Board of Trustees in June 2020 to bring students back to campus,” he says. “And a big piece of being able to do this was understanding testing protocols.”

As Marshall mentioned, the college found itself in a difficult situation upon learning the two analyzers expected from the government were redirected



“We recommended to the Saint Anselm College Board of Trustees in June 2020 to **BRING STUDENTS BACK TO CAMPUS.** And a big piece of being able to do this was understanding testing protocols.”

—DARON MONTGOMERY

elsewhere, leaving a big question mark on how plans for bringing students back would proceed. Enter Montgomery, and his ability to establish and maintain relationships reaching beyond athletics.

“The college being able to obtain Sofia 2 goes back to a longtime friendship I’ve had with Gene DeFilippo, the former athletic director for Boston College, who is now a consultant for Vivature, a practice management software company in Dallas, Texas,” Montgomery explains. “In 2016, DeFilippo introduced me to Muzzy Bass, CEO of Vivature, regarding exploring a partnership around a software program that tracks student-athlete visits to the sports medicine facility.”

Montgomery recounts a phone call he received in mid-July of 2020 from Bass and DeFilippo gauging his interest in this same testing equipment they had since pivoted to encompass rapid testing for Covid-19. “Vivature was partnered with Quidel, a manufacturer of diagnostic healthcare products in San Diego, California, who manufactures rapid

testing machines for Covid—and pro sports teams were looking to resume at that time, but in order to do so needed rapid testing—Muzzy and Gene told me one of the machines slated to go to the New York Yankees was no longer needed, and asked if we were interested.”

After a long day filled with conference calls between Montgomery, Bass, DeFilippo, and Bill Furlong, vice president and CFO, an agreement was reached for the Sofia 2 to be redirected to Saint Anselm. “Needless to say, it was also satisfying, especially for Bill, who is a lifelong Red Sox fan, to know we were getting the machine originally slated for the New York Yankees.”

The equipment arrived in late July, and by August 8 the campus was ready to begin testing students. By January, the athletics department secured two additional testing machines from Quidel through an agreement they reached with the NCAA. These additional machines allowed athletics to ramp up NCAA/NE10 required testing cadence during

the spring semester.

"We wouldn't be here today, on campus, without Sofia 2," says Montgomery. "The stars really aligned when I got that phone call back in July."

Mike Sirois

HEAD ATHLETIC TRAINER

Mike Sirois is one of those rare individuals who is not shy about offering to help. Entering his 17th year as head athletic trainer for the college, Sirois oversees the sports medicine department, with student athletes' health always top of mind. So, when the college obtained the Sofia 2 machine for rapid testing of students last summer, it wasn't a surprise when Sirois was one of the first to raise his hand to offer help in administering the tests.

"With my knowledge in medicine and sports medicine, it just made sense for me to jump in and learn how to use this equipment, along with the rest of my

staff," he says. Jump in, indeed. Within days of receiving Sofia 2, the college was preparing to welcome returning students—leaving little time to learn the equipment, administer the test, and manage the flow of students during testing and move-in.

During those early days of moving students in, Sirois recounts overseeing the testing of approximately 200 students a day. "The sports medicine staff worked every day of check-in, running rapid antigen Covid tests," he says. "In between all of this, we also were onboarding our student athletes with baseline concussion tests."

The move-in process, while executed swiftly, was seamless. The college partnered with ClearChoiceMD for the 10-day move-in plan, where every student was screened, had a medical evaluation, and then moved on to Sirois and his team for a rapid and PCR test.

While the timeline was tight, Sirois trusted the process. He says, "Testing was crucial for bringing students back, and we were all a little nervous. What if results didn't go well? But we were all excited to be back and the energy was high, and we all trusted one another, and everyone came together to do their part."

Results did go well, with only two positive rapid tests and two confirmed PCR tests during that 10-day move-in. And by second semester, Sirois saw his time spent focused back on athletics, overseeing the testing of student athletes, who in the second semester were given permission to return to play. And while Sirois couldn't have been happier to offer his help in seeing the college through such a challenging year, he's also ready for a return to normalcy. "We've all learned so much this past year, but I have to admit I look forward to not being in a lab next year, but back on the field."

“we were all excited to be back and the energy was high, and we all trusted one another, and **EVERYONE CAME TOGETHER to do their part.”**

—MIKE SIROIS



Mike Sirois

Rosemary Stackpole

DIRECTOR OF DINING SERVICES

During her 42 years on the Hilltop, Rosemary Stackpole, director of dining services, has never seen a year quite like this past one. But, even though she had never experienced anything like Covid-19, somehow she knew just what to do in



Rosemary Stackpole

order to keep dining services humming.

"As we moved into late spring and I learned more about our reopening plans for the fall, one of the first things I did was call our Pepsi Cola distributor and ask him to supply us with three open-air bottle beverage coolers for grab-and-go drinks," she says. "This was before anyone really had an idea of how long this was going to be, or what it was going to entail, and he thought I was crazy, but I knew we needed to move away from self-service stations."

This intuitive thinking helped Stackpole position all dining areas on campus for a safe dining experience for all students, staff, and faculty. "I worked with Don Moreau in facilities to install plexiglass shields to protect our servers, and I had to minimize lines, and rethink seating," she says. This resulted in some unpopular decisions, such as needing to close down the grill area, which would see dozens of students, staff and faculty waiting in line for popular grill items. It also included reducing the seating in Davison from 750 seats to 150, and working with IT to implement a new dining card-swiping ability to limit contact between cash register and student. Thousands of dishes were moved into storage and replaced with grab-and-go containers, and self-service condiment dispensers were substituted for single packs.

Another change came with the implementation of the online ordering system for the Coffee Shop and Gallo Café, and Davison dining reservation system. “We knew we needed to manage the flow of students and keep crowds down, and while students miss eating in the Coffee Shop, and especially visiting the Pub, people like being able to order their food and have it waiting for them when they’re ready,” she says. The reservation system also allowed Stackpole and her team to usher 75 students through Davison every 15 minutes.

As seamlessly as she handled all of the campus dining options, she also made sure students in quarantine and isolation were well fed. “Maura and I set up a system where every day she would email me the names of students in isolation or quarantine, and I would then email that student with directions on how to order food, and then call to follow up to make sure they understood how it worked—I wanted to make sure they knew they could order anything they liked,” she says. “Our administrative assistant, Michele Lavoie, would write up the order, charge their meal plan, and take it to the kitchen where the food would be prepared, packaged and placed in brown shopping bags. Rob Browne, director of security and safety, and his officers would pick up and

deliver.” Stackpole says this happened three times a day, at 8 a.m., noon, and 5 p.m. “When we were reaching those high numbers just before Easter break, we were packaging about 90 meals a day—it was getting rough,” she says.

But, at the end of the day, what matters most to Stackpole are happy customers. “A father of a student emailed Dr. Favazza and cc’d me on what a wonderful job the college did when his child was in quarantine, and how amazing the food was,” she says. “That, to me, is the best.”

Mike Murphy

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF RESIDENTIAL OPERATION

Planning for a student’s on-campus experience during a pandemic, when in-person activities and contact were limited, had its challenges to say the least. Just ask Mike Murphy, assistant director of residential operation. “Residence life is a big part of what a student being on campus looks like,” he says. “Our first priority was keeping students safe, but with that came so many questions.”

The first of which being, how to determine housing. “When students left in March 2020, they hadn’t picked their housing yet for the next year,” he says. “This was always held in person in Sullivan Arena.” Murphy and his team transitioned to a virtual system, which ended up being a huge success. “This was absolutely a silver lining to the past year, students loved it because it was a very transparent process, where they could see what rooms were available and what place they were in line,” he says.

The next hurdles involved how to train staff virtually for the upcoming year on how to interact safely, minimize clusters, and define what a family unit meant.

“Our first priority was **KEEPING STUDENTS SAFE**, but with that came so many questions.”

—MIKE MURPHY

“We came to the decision to define a student’s family unit as whoever you are sharing a bathroom with,” he says.

Planning for where to place students in isolation or quarantine also required a group effort among health services, physical plant, and residential life. “The reality is some students were going to contract Covid, and while the immediate thought might be to send that student home, that’s not always an option for everyone, depending on whether someone is immunocompromised at home, or if they live too far away,” he says. Murphy got to work coordinating the refitting of space for students in Collins House, as well as the fourth floor of Alumni Hall.

When numbers were spiking prior to Easter break, Murphy saw his available beds dwindling. “When the decision was made to send students home before Easter break, it was utter relief for me,” he says. “I was looking at spaces we had, and we didn’t have enough beds—in some instances when someone was released from isolation at midnight, someone else needed to be moved in by 8 a.m.”

For Murphy, the success in finishing out the year with students on campus was a team effort. “Everywhere you looked, staff and faculty were coming together for the students,” he says. “The good in this is seeing everyone come together.”

Rob Browne ’95

DIRECTOR OF SAFETY AND SECURITY

As the former chief of police for the Goffstown, N.H., police department, **Rob Browne ’95**, director of safety and security, is used to handling anything that comes his way—a skill that served him well this year as he and his team took on several new roles to keep students safe while on campus.

“Once we knew the plan for bringing students back, we set the wheels in motion, working closely with physical plant on pedestrian flow for each building and dorm, designating specific entry-only and exit-only doors, and up and down stairwells, as well as the residence life staff on how to limit crowds, and what student groups to bring back first,” he says.



Mike Murphy



Rob Browne '95 stands by the white Chevy Traverse, nicknamed the Covid Car, used to relocate students to isolation.

“If it fell to any one department, I don’t think we would have made it. **IT TRULY TAKES A VILLAGE.”**

—ROB BROWNE '95

Browne also oversaw the creation of a call center to answer the many questions from parents and students associated with the monumental move-in. “Heather Arsenault in our office was a thoroughbred here, we could not have done it without her—answering questions for hours, ranging anywhere from ‘Where can I park?’ to ‘How many family members can help move me in?’ and ‘What time is my move-in slot?’ to ‘Where do I go for my rapid test?’”

Willing to do whatever needed doing, Browne and his team also helped move students into isolation, as well as deliver food to them three times a day. “If a student tested positive on campus, Maura [Marshall] and I would pick up the student in front of their residence hall and move them into one of the rooms designated for isolation,” he says. “We needed to do this in one trip, and we were carrying everything from clothes and televisions to computers, backpacks, medications and

linens—all with N95 masks.”

When numbers were climbing before Easter break, Browne recalls many long days of picking up meals in Davison, moving students into isolation, and handling many unexpected situations. “When you have Covid, your sense of smell is gone,” he says. “Maura and I would walk into the room of a student whose isolation was ending at midnight but would need to be occupied by someone else by 8 a.m., and the trash would be overwhelming.” True to form, Browne and Marshall never skipped a beat, and got to work cleaning. “Maura and I would just look at each other and laugh before digging in to clean—what else can you do in that situation but laugh?”

While there were many hard days, Browne credits the campuswide teamwork for getting through the past year. “If it fell to any one department, I don’t think we would have made it,” he says. “It truly takes a village.”

Brinna Martin '24

For an example of what strength, perseverance, and patience looks like—look no further than **Brinna Martin '24**. The freshman biology major from St. Michael, Minn., and member of the women’s hockey team, not only

completed her first year of college during a pandemic, but also navigated a whopping 47 days in quarantine.

While Martin never contracted Covid-19, she was considered a close contact to students who did, and therefore found herself in quarantine on four different occasions throughout the year. “The hardest part was testing negative so many times but still having to quarantine,” she says. “It was just so frustrating.”

While Martin remembers many late-night phone calls home to her parents in Minnesota, she also credits the support of her friends, teammates, and coach for helping her through the isolation. “My coach and teammates have been wonderful—we did a lot of Zoom calls, played virtual trivia games, and I also had a lot of body workouts to do, which helped beat the isolation.”

Even with more than a month and a half of quarantine under her belt, Martin couldn’t imagine going to school anywhere else. “It may sound strange, but even though having to quarantine so many times was awful, I’ve had the best year,” she says. “All of my friends are great, and being able to just sit on the quad to study and listen to music, or watch a movie and hang out, it’s been such a great year.”



Brinna Martin '24

THANKS *for the* MEMORIES

These beloved employees retired from the Hilltop this year with more than 200 years of service among them. Here they share some of their fondest memories, and a few college secrets.

BY DENNIS CARON '21 PHOTOS BY JEFF DACHOWSKI, KEVIN HARKINS, GIL TALBOT

➤ ROSEMARY STACKPOLE

Director of Dining Services

How many years on the Hilltop? 42

Fondest memory: So many fond memories, Christmas Feasts, Family Weekends, Senior Formals, Alumni Weekends, Crepe Nights, the Gingerbread House Contest construction nights—all the thought and work was always worth the successful outcomes and the tremendous appreciation the students and entire community always extended to me and my staff. One year, two alumni, a brother and a sister, arrived on campus for the Thanksgiving pies and cheesecake sale. They had made the trip a family tradition; however, we had already sold out upon their arrival. I saw they were upset and also remembered an administrator had asked to leave four pies aside to be picked up later. The administrator could not pick up the pies, so I decided to sell them to the family. I'll never forget the reaction when I returned with four pies. The young woman started to cry, threw her arms around me, and gave me the biggest hug. They were so grateful that they were able to purchase four pies for their family.

What will you miss most? The Benedictines and this beautiful campus, especially

Rosemary Stackpole



the lovely variety of trees throughout. Also, this most gracious community who has always shown such appreciation to all of us here in Dining. I always felt so special when one of the monks would stop by to say hello from time to time. Father Finbar, Father Bernard, and Father Jude were all so kind and caring. They would pop in to see me out of the blue and have me sit down and have a cup of coffee or tea with them, almost like they knew that it was what I needed at that moment.

Biggest change on campus? The growth of the college and the addition of buildings throughout.

Fun fact? I was hired in 1979 as the director of Cash Operations. The college was planning to renovate what was then the post office/pub building, and I was to be in charge of the Coffee Shop, the Pub, and catering. I started in July. About a month later, the administration decided it would be too costly of a project and decided instead to fix up the current Coffee Shop located in the basement of Alumni Hall. However, 12 years later, in 1991, the building's renovation took place, and we opened what is now the Coffee Shop and Pub. Things often take a bit of time here on the Hilltop.

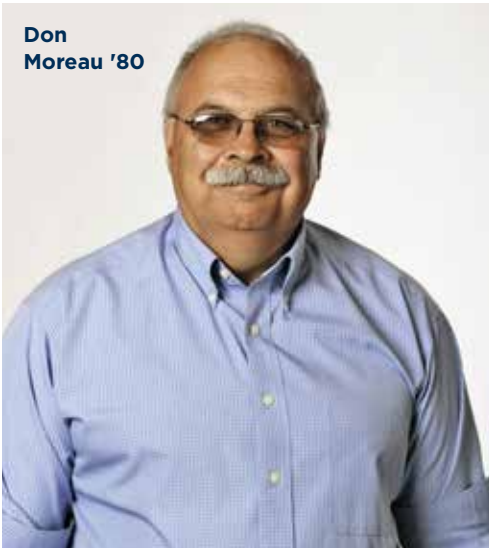
➤ DON MOREAU '80

Physical Plant Director

How many years on the Hilltop? 40

Fondest memory? When Abbot Mark (then Father Mark) offered me the job as director. I was ecstatic and yet not sure I was even qualified for the job. I had such pride in the school for many reasons, including the fact that both of my parents had previously worked at the college, I graduated from Saint Anselm in 1980, and my wife Diane and I were married in the Abbey Church. The Hilltop was a second home to me, and it has such a special place in my heart.

**Don
Moreau '80**



What will you miss most? The people. Throughout the years, I had interactions with many great people on so many levels. I interacted with the college trustees, the monks, my staff, vendors, and, of course, the students. I developed a lot of friendships and memories, and that is something hard to let go.

Biggest change on campus? The growth of the college.

Fun fact? Being director of Physical Plant made me the Sexton of the Abbey, and so I had to sign off on the burial paperwork with the town of Goffstown each time we buried a monk. Back in 2005, when we buried Father Thaddeus, my reading glasses fell into the vault. Being 6 feet down, I decided to leave them, and so to this day, my readers are still with him.

› **SAM ALLEN**

Director, Career Programs and Technology

How many years on the Hilltop? 38

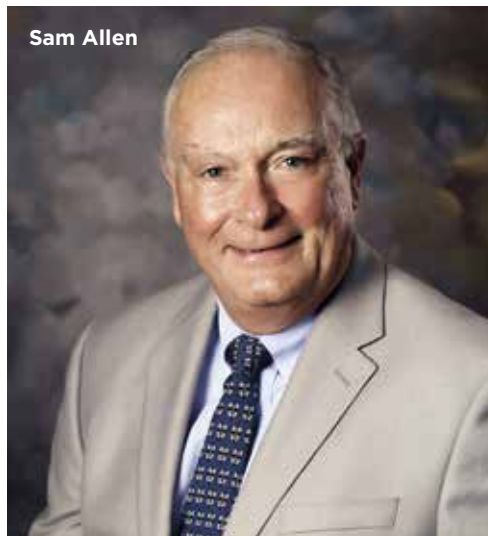
Fondest memory? Many of my fondest memories have to do with the monastic community and our students. When I first came to the college, you would see the monks wherever you were on campus. They were involved in every aspect of student life. I was able to work closely with them and developed a deep reverence for their vocation and respect for them individually. The monks

represent everything good about Saint Anselm, and I am pleased to see that legacy continue today. I also had the privilege of helping our students define their career goals and plot strategies to achieve them. It was an honor to have so many students trust me with their hopes and dreams. It was incredible to watch their career trajectories and witness their contributions in the workplace and their communities.

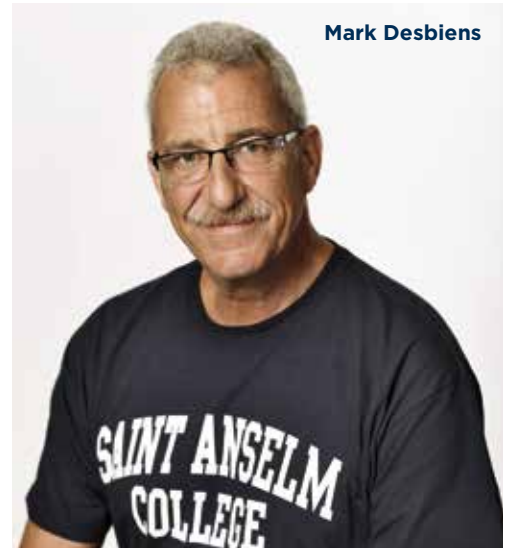
What will you miss most? The sense of community and our students. Many colleges talk about community, but few live it as fully as Saint Anselm. The entire campus, faculty, staff, students, alumni, and monks care deeply about this place and, consequently, care about each other. In this world of instability and turmoil, it was nice to know that you worked for a place with high values and ethics that carry over to personal interactions and college business across the campus.

Biggest change on campus? During my career, I had a front-row seat and witnessed the evolution of the college we have today. When I first came here, only the interior campus existed. I have watched the physical campus expand to include the Uppers, Lower, NHIOP, Sullivan Arena, Davison, LLC, Poisson, and the Welcome Center. I saw our excellent curriculum develop and be refined without sacrificing rigor or bending to the whims of constantly changing economies. I saw our reputation grow signifi-

Sam Allen



Mark Desbiens



cantly, resulting in many national and regional rankings. I am very proud of the college and our work.

Fun fact? For many years, I hosted a daily "Morning Meeting" in my office in the Cushing Center. The meeting became a place where staff from around the building would come to start their day, share personal stories about their vacations, hobbies, or families, seek out advice about challenging problems, or just laugh. Often we would have faculty, coaches, or monks join us. It reinforced our sense of community and made us better colleagues and student service providers. It helped to strengthen us as colleagues and friends.

› **MARK DESBIENS**

Carpenter, Foreman, and Locksmith

How many years on the Hilltop? 31

Fondest memory? One of my fondest memories is spending time with Father Finbar in his waning years. He was such a great storyteller. Some were a little spicy in his language, but all were good. Also, his back-and-forth with his confreres was indeed one for the ages.

What will you miss most? I will miss my co-workers and the monks.

Biggest change on campus? The most significant change that I witnessed is the advent of social media.

Fun fact? Every time I entered the monastery through the front door the statue of Saint Benedict would startle me. Every time.

> SUSAN “SUE” E. GAGNON

Head of Periodicals

How many years on the Hilltop?

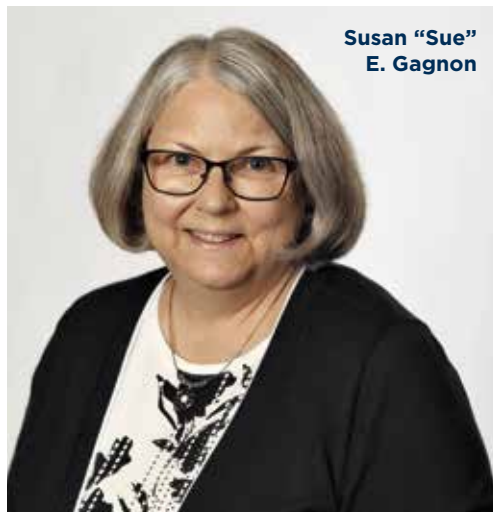
23 consecutive years, plus two years part-time from 1991-1993

Fondest memory? I will never forget seeing all of the books being taken out of Geisel Library in December 1991 for the great renovation. I was amazed at how efficiently hundreds of thousands of library materials could be moved to various parts of campus, most of it being moved to the old Cushing Center. We still had the old card catalog then, which was also moved to Cushing. Periodicals were in closed stacks under the gym for this renovation. We were so delighted to move back into the new library. She was a gem then and still is today!

What will you miss most? The wonderful friendships made with other library staff members. Working at Geisel Library is truly like working with family. Many of us have formed strong bonds over the years, and now I will join the ranks of those who have already retired. I foresee some possible breakfast or lunch gatherings in the future!

Biggest change on campus? An endless list of building construction and renovations have happened, and staff has come and gone. The greatest change I feel has been the governing of the college. When I began, the monks governed both the Abbey and the college, and Father Jonathan DeFelice was president, Abbot Mark was treasurer, and Father Augustine was dean. Now all of these major roles in the college are performed by laypeople.

Fun fact? I began working at Geisel Library as the part-time secretary to Joseph Constance, then worked 15 years in the Interlibrary Loan Office, and completed my time as Head of Periodicals. In Periodicals, I also worked coordinating efforts to update the Government Documents Collection. I loved my time



Susan “Sue”
E. Gagnon

“Working at Geisel Library is truly like **working with family**. Many of us have formed strong bonds over the years, and now I will join the ranks of those who have already retired.”

at Saint Anselm College, and I will always treasure my years working at Geisel Library. In my humble opinion, it's the best place to work on campus.

> DENISE REAGAN

Faculty Assistant

How many years on the Hilltop? 20

Fondest memory? So many to mention: How much I appreciate the monks and faculty. They brought the world to me every day!

What will you miss most? Seeing my friends every day, my colleagues, the wonderful monks, the many events, the Abbey Players, my work studies, the students, the wonderful camaraderie of being an Anselmian, being on campus every day.

Biggest change on campus? The diversity and the amazing work for social justice, the increased volunteerism.

Fun fact? I met my soul mate and married him (Professor Dan Reagan)! One of my favorite things to do was to walk on campus, during any season (weather permitting!). Such beautiful grounds and a sort of aura you don't feel everywhere else.

> JANET POIRIER

*Executive Assistant,
Office of the President*

How many years on the Hilltop? 18

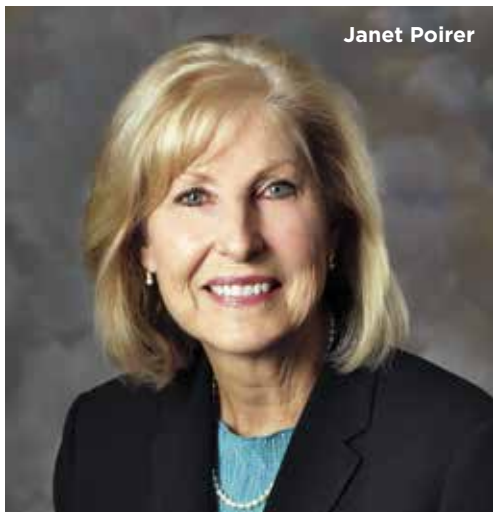
Fondest memory? The abbatial election and blessing of Abbot Mark as the fifth Abbot of Saint Anselm Abbey was a major event in the life of the college. We gathered in the Abbey Church as others watched the livestreaming to see who our next Abbot would be. The tension was palpable. Most of us had not participated in this part of the Benedictine tradition. It was with great celebration that the election of Abbot Mark was announced as Abbot and Chancellor.

What will you miss most? The people, but mostly participating in the important events where we came together as a community to worship, reflect, and celebrate. I miss attending Mass in the Abbey Church and hearing the bells ring throughout the day. I miss the students, but am still in contact with many.

Biggest change on campus? The changes to the physical environment have been significant. The creation



Denise Reagan



Janet Poirer

of the NHOP, Sullivan Arena, the Spagnuolo Fitness Center, the Living Learning Commons, the Founder's Green and the Grotto, Joseph Hall, the Jean Complex, and the Savard Welcome Center have been transformational. These visionary plans took place over many years under the leadership of three presidents to improve the campus experience for our students.

Fun fact? I had the opportunity to go up to the Alumni Hall bell tower to add my name to the hundreds of other names on the walls from past decades. The tower is so high, the two bells are massive, and the view of Manchester is amazing.

➤ ROBIN ALLARD

Faculty Assistant II

How many years on the Hilltop? 15

Fondest memory? When we went to Hundred Acres one Christmas with my then-supervisor, Cathy Strasbaugh, and the other faculty assistants she supervised. We each brought a dish for a potluck, burned a fire log in the woodstove, had a Secret Santa gift exchange, and enjoyed a talk by Father John.

What will you miss most? Walking the perimeter of the campus in the early mornings, seeing wildlife, and enjoying beautiful sunrises over the former Clark Farm field. I will also miss voting on the best gingerbread house. I always looked

forward to the imaginative creations of the students.

Biggest change on campus? The building of the Student Center. I visited the building almost every day, and it was a vast improvement over the former Cushing Center.

Fun fact? I read a sonnet every year at Shakespeare's birthday celebration. Some may remember me knitting with co-workers in the coffee shop on Mondays at lunchtime.

➤ **CHARLES M. GETCHELL, JR.**
College Librarian and Instructor (Administrative Faculty) teaching American history for two semesters—R.N. to B.S.N. program

How many years on the Hilltop? 7 1/2

Fondest memory? The vibrant and interwoven sense of community across what I call the quadrants of students, faculty, staff, and monastery. Plus, you had the sustained interest of many in coming to Saint Anselm and engaged alumni.

What will you miss most? My staff and the students. My staff changed over my years, but with each departure, an outstanding individual joined us to evolve our strengths and strategies further—always putting students first. The students are the reason we are here. I found Saint Anselm students to be quite special—their many talents, strong motivations,



Robin Allard



Charles M. Getchell, Jr.

"I found Saint Anselm students to be quite special—their **many talents, strong motivations, and a high degree of respect** make them prized hires upon graduation."

and a high degree of respect make them prized hires upon graduation.

Biggest change on campus? The physical campus including a new dormitory, student center, and admissions building. Inside Geisel, we accomplished some substantial improvements, including a welcoming Special Collections and Rare Books space, group study rooms, attractive and creative shelving, and digital signage.

Fun fact? Seven spring break trips with baseball. As a faculty/staff team advisor, I'd spend a week with players, coaches, many family members, and meet alums so generous in supporting our student-athletes. I got to know a group of students well, and indulge in something I loved—college sports. The appreciation and gratitude student-athletes extend to you just for taking an interest and watching them practice and play have been one of my greatest rewards in working in higher education. 🍀

MESSAGES in a BOTTLE



WITH THE MESSENGER RNA PLATFORM DEVELOPED BY HIS COMPANY, RON RENAUD '90 IS SENDING FORTH TREATMENTS FOR COVID-19 AND OTHER DISEASES. BY MICHAEL BLANDING

Years ago, **Ron Renaud '90** was fly-fishing for trout with a doctor outside Los Angeles, trying to decide whether to go to medical school or stay in the biotech industry. "He said to me, 'You know, perhaps by not going to medical school, and creating value in other ways, you could have even more impact on the lives of patients,'" Renaud remembers. "I've never ever forgotten that conversation."

Two decades later, as CEO of Translate Bio, a clinical-stage mRNA therapeutics company based in Lexington, Mass., Renaud has the ability to impact millions of lives with a new vaccine for Covid-19. It uses the same messenger RNA (mRNA) platform that has proved so effective with the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines, along with a few tweaks Renaud and his colleagues hope will boost its efficacy even more. The company is using the same platform as a therapeutic approach to tackle other diseases that have long resisted a cure. "There are a lot of areas in which mRNA can play a role in treating the underlying causes of some of these genetic diseases," Renaud says. "It's very precise, almost surgical, in how we can address very specific mutations that represent the underlying causes of so many rare diseases."

Renaud grew up in central Massachusetts and came to Saint Anselm thinking he'd study pre-med, but after the difficulties of organic chemistry and comparative anatomy, switched to psychology instead. He still remembers lessons from now-chair Professor **Paul Finn '73** he uses as a leader today. "We spent a lot of time talking about what really drives people," he says. "Today my job is a lot about understanding and managing and

getting the best out of people."

His wife **Marianne (Gorman) Renaud '91** also attended Saint Anselm, studying political science, but ironically the two never met on campus. It wasn't until after graduating, when he was working at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, and she was working down the street at Brigham and Women's Hospital, that a fellow Saint Anselm grad introduced them on a bus. They connected at an alumni dance and started dating, getting married two years later. When Renaud got a job at the biotech job Amgen in California, Marianne worked doing human relations at Sebastian International and L'Oréal.

After finally deciding against medical school, Renaud got an MBA at the University of Southern California, and eventually the couple moved back to the East Coast, where he worked as a biotech company analyst on Wall Street. They then moved back to Massachusetts, where Renaud became president and CEO of Idenix Pharmaceuticals, a company identifying treatments for viral diseases that was subsequently sold to Merck. Marianne, meanwhile, took care of the couple's two children, Owen and Jack, while volunteering in administration at Newton-Wellesley Hospital.

Translate Bio acquired its mRNA technology in late 2016, before it was widely recognized as a breakthrough platform for vaccines. Initially, the company focused on correcting rare genetic diseases such as cystic fibrosis and ciliary dyskinesia, both of which attack the lungs. "DNA makes mRNA and mRNA makes protein," Renaud explains. "It is the code for every single thing that happens in the human body." By carrying the mRNA into the right

cells, it can rewrite the proteins that are created. "You create the right proteins—or, really, correct the wrong proteins," Renaud says. "Then you let the cellular machinery take over and do its thing."

The Covid vaccine candidate, called MRT5500, is being jointly developed with French pharma company Sanofi and uses a lipid nanoparticle to deliver the mRNA into the cell. Once there, it produces a protein that spurs the body's antibody response to Sars-CoV-2, the virus that causes Covid-19. By inserting a few extra amino acids into the sequence, the companies hope to create an antibody response even more effective against the coronavirus's distinctive spike protein. Even though American and European populations are well on their way to being vaccinated, Renaud hopes the vaccine can help reduce infections and deaths in other parts of the world such as Asia and Africa.

"There, vaccination rates are still in the single digits," he says. "As long as these variants keep cropping up, we're going to need vaccines into 2022, 2023, and beyond." As Renaud raced to get the vaccine into production while quarantined, the whole family became involved in the quest. "It's almost like the boys and I were part of the executive team," says Marianne. "We were a fly on the wall during some very intense meetings."

Renaud's hard work has paid off, however, as the vaccine is now in Phase 1/2 clinical trials and will hopefully be approved in 2022. With that and the other vaccine and therapeutic treatments the company is developing, he truly will fulfill the promise of that conversation over trout fishing years ago, impacting many more lives than he ever could have as a doctor. ■

Ron Renaud '90 and
Marianne (Gorman)
Renaud '91
at their home
in Massachusetts.
Photo by Leah LaRicca





PAMELA PRESTON

Nursing

BY KATE GRIP DENON

“There is so much more to nursing than giving medications or hanging an IV—the power we have as nurses is how we relate to people to promote their wellness. Don’t be afraid to think out of the box.”

Why did you choose nursing as a profession?

I didn’t. I am a first-generation college student, and my mother told me I had one option for college, Adelphi University, and that I would be studying nursing.

It seems like it’s worked out—are you glad now?

My mother was very wise. Being a nurse is such an integral part of my life—I cannot imagine any other career that I would have loved as much.

You teach community/public health classes—how did you decide on this specialty?

I did what you’re not supposed to do as a nurse. Most new nursing grads begin on a general med/surg floor to gain experience before specializing, but my first job was in a pediatric ICU. After a few years, when I was tired of working nights, I took a daytime opportunity as a pediatric homecare nurse. This morphed into a joint-care venture with New York Hospital to create the first pediatric HIV program in New York City, and that’s how I found my passion for public health/community nursing. I immediately felt an affinity to working with an underserved population—maybe because my parents grew up in a disadvantaged setting—but I loved the patients and how so many different community groups and health

care professions worked together. It’s my true love.

Each semester you take a group of nursing students to Costa Rica—can you tell me more about this?

It’s on hiatus right now due to Covid, but it will be back next January, and we are expanding to Belize. It is open to students taking my NU449 Community/Public Health course, and fulfills their clinical rotation. For me, coming from Brooklyn where there is such diversity, having clinical opportunities that expose students to different populations is important, and I wasn’t finding this experience as much as I would like for my students here. I brought this idea to our study abroad program and our executive director, Maureen O’Reilly—they were really supportive. It’s important to me that we are working in communities that are truly in need, and making a real difference, and that students understand the needs of diverse populations, and experience what it feels like to provide health care when you have limited resources.

Our student nurses have been administering the Covid-19 vaccine in New Hampshire—why is this important?

Being in community/public health nursing in the midst of a pandemic

provided a unique opportunity. Every one of my students will have experience in either testing for Covid or administering one of the vaccines. We’re also involved in programs that are bringing the vaccine to populations who otherwise might not have access to it—we are going to housing projects and/or soup kitchens, for example. The Nashua Department of Health has been amazing in giving us the opportunity to participate in these programs.

How are students handling this?

They are fantastic, and so great with the patients. They are interacting with many different populations, they are documenting in the Vaccine Administration Management System, they are vaccinating, and, as usual, so on top of everything, which can be difficult in such a fast and fluid environment. I’m always very proud of them.

What’s your advice to nursing graduates entering a post-pandemic world?

Do what you love. Don’t feel trapped into following a certain path. There is so much more to nursing than giving medications or hanging an IV—the power we have as nurses is how we relate to people to promote their wellness. Don’t be afraid to think out of the box.

If you could go back and choose your career path, what would you be?

I love horses and I used to show jump. I’d be a professional show jumper. 🐾

Pamela Preston, Associate Professor, Nursing
D.N.P. Rush University
M.S.N. Molloy College
B.S.N. Adelphi University

Photo by Jeff Dachowski

SUPPORTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF NURSES

BY ANNA BRENNAN-CURRY

Saint Anselm College has had a profound influence on the lives of **Chris** and **Dixie Douville**. Both members of the class of 1986, they met during their time on the Hilltop, where Dixie studied nursing and Chris participated in the joint engineering 3+2 program at the University of Notre Dame. Throughout a whirlwind of moves, children, and busy careers, the college has remained a constant in their lives, and grounds them with a place of peace, community, and inspiration.

In honor of this connection, and as a tribute to former nursing professor Lucille Lavoie, who passed away last year, the couple recently established the Lucille Lavoie '57 Nursing Endowed Fund for Innovations in Teaching Excellence. For the Douvilles, the establishment of the fund is a way to honor the Hilltop and the impact Professor Lavoie had on Dixie's career, as well as inspire others to reconnect and support the nursing department.

Following a Path of Compassion

After graduation, the couple married in October 1988, and spent the next two decades moving for Chris' work living in seven different states. They had three children, but throughout their adventures Dixie's commitment to nursing remained strong. She worked at a variety of hospitals, big and small, primarily in intensive and cardiac care.

Today, they call Westport, Conn., home, where Chris is partially retired, and Dixie is a faculty member at Sacred Heart. Dixie often shares stories of

Professor Lavoie with her students—in particular, one which involved a clinical experience she had with Professor Lavoie. “We were with a patient in pain who struggled to get comfortable, but I watched Professor Lavoie use therapeutic touch,” she says. According

“[Professor Lavoie] was always ahead of her time. She ... always encouraged us to not just think about the physical aspect of caring for the patient, but also the spiritual aspect.”

—Dixie Douville '86

to Dixie, this was not common practice at the time. “To see someone who was trained in that, and for her to do it effectively, and for her to bring calm and comfort to this woman, was probably one of the most impressive things I've witnessed as a nursing professional,” she says. “I came to appreciate it even more as I grew in my own practice.”

According to Dixie, this forward thinking was typical of Lavoie. “[Professor Lavoie] was always ahead of her time. She ... always encouraged us to not just

think about the physical aspect of caring for the patient, but also the spiritual aspect,” says Dixie. “She reinforced the college's mission for the integration of the liberal arts, faith and service.”

Giving Back to the Hilltop

With the creation of the Lucille Lavoie '57 Nursing Endowed Fund for Innovations in Teaching Excellence, the Douvilles hope to not only honor the professor who devoted her life to readying the next generation of student nurses but also support the nursing department's current needs, and build a foundation for future strength. Already, after the college announced the endowed fund as a part of their 7th annual Days of Giving campaign, the fund has raised more than \$58,800.

The establishment of the fund, however, is just one of many ways in which the couple has given back to the Hilltop. Dixie served on the Alumni Council, and in 2011 joined the board of trustees, where she currently serves as secretary. They also began to support the college philanthropically through a variety of campaigns, from athletics to the nursing program. Dixie and Chris see their support as a way to connect to the many different programs and initiatives of the college.

“We found a number of needs we have been able to identify with,” says Chris. “We have gotten so much out of the college, even after we left, and hope that others can find their way back as well.” ■

Chris and Dixie Douville, both members of the class of 1986, have established the Lucille Lavoie '57 Nursing Endowed Fund for Innovations in Teaching Excellence. Photo by Kevin Harkins



'61

Capt. Ann Darby Reynolds U.S.N. (Ret.) has published a memoir of her 26-year career in the United States Navy, *Silent Night: 26 Years in the Navy: A Nurse's Memoir* (2021).

'62

U.S. Marine Col. Harvey C. Barnum, Jr. H.D. '02 (Ret.) was recently honored for his Medal of Honor service during the Vietnam War with the laying of the keel of a U.S. Navy destroyer named in his honor. The ship with Barnum's name is an Arleigh Burke-class destroyer and among several Bath Iron Works in Bath, Maine is building.

'69

Capt. Mary Jo (O'Dwyer) Majors, Nurse Corps, U.S.N.R. (Ret.) recently received the 2020 Navy Nurse Corps Association's National Service Award. She received this as recognition for her selfless and limitless volunteerism and contributions to NNCA along with other numerous Navy, Veteran and civilian organizations which she supports in New England and on a national level. Some of these include the: SAC Alumni Council, SAC Alumni Awards Committee, SAC reunion Military Service Tribute, Wardroom Club of Boston, Navy Recruiting District New England, Navy Officer Training Command

in R.I., Navy League, Boston NROTC Consortium, USS Constitution, USS Constitution Museum Board of Trustees, United States Naval Academy Admissions Office, the Vietnam War 50th Commemoration Organization, Massachusetts Department of Veterans Services, and the Naval Reserve's Yellow Ribbon Program to meet with Naval Reservists recently deployed overseas. She also was elected in November to serve as President of "The Wardroom Club of Boston" for their 2020-2021 season. The club was founded in 1899 and its goal is to encourage an "esprit de corps" and to emulate military shipboard wardrooms. This is the 122nd year of continuous operations and Majors is the first woman and Navy Nurse Corps officer to serve in this position. The membership of 350 consists of both men and women who are active duty, reserve, retired and former Navy, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and Merchant Marine Officers who have served their nation with honor. The Club meets October-May in Boston to discuss affairs of the nation, primarily of a military nature involving the maritime services, and to review past, present, and future nautical matters.

Gianpietro Mazzoleni, Ph.D. was a 2020 recipient of the David Swanson Award for Service to Political Communication Scholarship. The award recognizes distinguished and sustained contributions to the field as planners, editors, and

leaders and in roles that require time and energy, innovation, and personal dedication. He retired from the Department of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Milan in 2016.

'74

Steve Brickey retired from Mercy High School in Middletown, Conn., after 44 years at the school. He was a history teacher, dean of students and vice principal during his career there.

'77

Mark Sullivan has joined the strategic advisory board of Navigate360, a leading provider of social and emotional learning, school safety solutions, and programs for students, parents, schools, and communities. Sullivan is the former director of the United States Secret Service (USSS), where he managed 7,000 special agents, uniformed division officers, and administrative, professional and technical staff members. He led high-impact initiatives in criminal investigations and protective operations, as well as in strategic planning, threat assessment and risk management, human capital management, training, and technology deployment operations. He was responsible for the protection of the president, vice president, former presidents and their families, other government leaders and visiting heads of state.

'78

William Walsh retired from the Great Barrington, Mass., Police Department after 40 years, and 37 years as its chief of police. He also was the town's emergency management director.

'79

Patricia Edwards has been practicing pediatrics at Concord Pediatrics in Concord, N.H. for the past 34 years. Currently she is the senior partner in the practice and also the secretary of the American Academy of Pediatrics New Hampshire Chapter. She also is on the board of the New Hampshire Vaccine Association, and is an opinion columnist for the *Concord Monitor*. The biggest challenge of her career to date has been treating patients during this pandemic and keeping them up to date on immunizations and well child care.

'80

Timothy Cornett experienced an incredible coincidence with **Colleen Sliney Powell '86** when they shared a picnic table in front of Labonte's BBQ Smokehouse at the bottom of the Mozart Run at Keystone Ski Resort in Keystone, Colo., on February 22. Perfect weather and conditions helped them enjoy a break for hot cocoa and sharing college stories.

ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME LOOKS FORWARD TO CLASS OF 2022

'83

Honorable Pamela (Hughes) Patenaude, former deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, will co-chair the Bipartisan Policy Center's new Housing Advisory Council and Initiative on Racial Equity and Housing.

'84

Karen (Flore) Cordero has retired after spending her entire career of 35 years at Bolton High School, Bolton Conn. Over the years she has inspired students to explore the world around them, enjoy the wonders of the night sky, and question the how and why of the natural world. She has taught earth science, ecology, biology, astronomy and UCONN environmental science all with a passion and an abundance of enthusiasm. Throughout her career she not only taught science but was the class advisor to several classes, coached, advised student council for 25 years, ski club advisor, Envirothon advisor, chaperone and trip leader, taking students and the community to Costa Rica, South Africa, and the National Parks, allowing students and the community members alike the opportunity to experience nature outside the confines of the small town. Educational travel is what she would like to do "post" pandemic as well as continue to hike and play golf.



The continuous journey to find normalcy amidst a pandemic has created several challenges during this unprecedented school year. It comes with great sadness that the Athletics Hall of Fame was cancelled this year due to the ongoing pandemic. Unfortunately, "with the health and safety of those in attendance and the campus community at the forefront, hosting a proper gathering to honor the legacies of our inductees is not presently feasible," says Director of Athletics Daron Montgomery.

Created in 1980, the Athletics Hall of Fame includes more than 150 student-athletes, faculty, staff and other supporters. After a 10-year hiatus, the Hall of Fame was revived, reestablished, and recreated in 2017 and the reinstated Salamone Family Athletics Hall of Fame space was unveiled and dedicated in February of 2020, merely weeks before the college was shut down for the 2020 spring semester.

Parallel to the new space, the Department of Athletics also launched an updated website in January of 2021, which includes new photos of inductees, biographies, and revised statistics. The website correlates to the touch screen in the Hall of Fame

to cohesively commemorate those inducted. As the Hall of Fame is a monument of history, an abundance of research was necessary to uncover original press releases from the history of Saint Anselm athletes and athletic rankings were progressively updated. The Department of Athletics encourages Alumni to visit the Hall of Fame website to see the various improvements.

Nominations for the Athletics Hall of Fame are being accepted on the SaintAnselmHawks.com website. Although the Hall of Fame was cancelled this year, it should be noted that Alumni can continue to nominate athletes, mentors, coaches, or teams for inclusion in next year's Hall of Fame. The deadline is rolling and submissions are welcome at any time. The criteria for nominations can be found on the website. Montgomery adds, "we look forward to celebrating the athletic achievements of future classes as soon as possible."

For more information on the Athletics Hall of Fame, or to make a nomination, visit saintanselmhawks.com/honors/athletics-hall-of-fame.

BY ABIGAIL ST. JEAN '21
PHOTO BY JIM STANKIEWICZ

'85

Patricia (Gagnon) Endsley graduated with a Ph.D. in Nursing January 6, 2021 from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Her qualitative research explored school nurse workload through the lived experiences of elementary school nurses. She is the school nurse at Wells High School in Wells, Maine.

Alexis (Brous) Walker has published her 30th romance novel under her pen name Lexi Post. Her novels are inspired by the classics, and her most recent novel, published by Entangled Publishing in February, was inspired by Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist* and is titled *A Pocket in Time*.

'86

Pam (Chamberas) Demetroulakos is director of IT service operations for Steel Root, in Salem, Mass., a leading cybersecurity services firm that specializes in compliance for the U.S. Defense Industrial Base.

'89

Erin (O'Connell) Ryder was honored by the American Red Cross as 2020's top fundraiser among more than 400 U.S. colleagues raising private support for its humanitarian and biomedical services. She has already exceeded goals for 2021 and celebrates a 33 year career

in philanthropy for leading Massachusetts-based and national non-profits.

'93

Dan O'Connell is chief of the Winchester Police Department in Winchester, Mass. He began his career with the department as a patrolman in 2000, was promoted to sergeant in 2008 and then detective lieutenant in 2012. He has served as the lieutenant-in-charge since 2016, which is second in command to the police chief.

'95

Bradford Connor is the chief of police for the Warwick, R.I. police department.

The Venerable Richard Lepage was appointed to the position of Archdeacon in the Diocese of the West by the Rt. Rev'd. Dr. Felix Orji, Coordinating Bishop of the Church of Nigeria North American Mission (CONNAM). The mission is a cooperative effort between North American Anglican churches and the Anglican Church of Nigeria which is the largest Anglican jurisdiction in the Anglican Communion. The goal of the mission is to strengthen Anglican parishes and church planting efforts across North America, particularly parishes that have left the Episcopal Church in recent years. In

addition to assisting and advising the bishop, he is the Rector of Reformation Anglican Church in Gray, Maine.

Brendan O'Brien assumed the position of the Charge d'Affaires of the United States Embassy in San Salvador. A career member of the Senior Foreign Service, he has served as Deputy Chief of Mission (2019-2021), Consul General at the United States Embassy in San Salvador (2017-2019) and at the United States Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina (2014-2017). Previously, he was director of the Office of American Citizen Services and Crisis Management in Washington D.C. (2012-2014). He served two tours at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan as the Consul General and Press Attaché (2008-2010) and then worked on the Afghanistan Desk in Washington D.C. He also held various diplomatic positions abroad in Bogota, Colombia (2005-2007) and Canberra, Australia (2003-2005). Prior to the State Department, Brendan was an International Advisor at Middlebury College in Vermont, the coordinator of the Boston Peace Corps Office, and a Peace Corps volunteer in Paraguay. He earned a masters in International Relations from Universidad de Externado in Bogota, Colombia. He speaks Spanish, Dari, and Guarani.

'96

Melissa (Comeiro) Brown received her Masters of Education from Fitchburg State University and has her elementary teaching license. She is currently employed at Alden Elementary School in Duxbury, Mass., as a special education instructional assistant.

Carlivette Santamaria, D.D.S., has been included in Marquis Who's Who. After earning her Bachelor of Arts in Biology from Saint Anselm, she earned her Doctor of Dental Medicine degree from the University of Connecticut in 2002. She then completed her general practice residency at Boston Medical Center, and obtained a postgraduate residency program certificate from Boston Medical Center in 2003. She is affiliated with the New Hampshire Dental Society, the Massachusetts Dental Society, Business Networking International and the American Dental Association. She contributes to CURE International as a dental outreach volunteer, and has been recognized as the Friendliest Dentist in the City through *HIPPO* Magazine, and was honored among the Trademark Women of Distinction in 2020.

'97

Craig Colonero has been appointed general manager/Auburn division of Quality Beverage L.P. In Taunton,

NURSING PIONEERS: RYAN GAGNON '97 AND BRIAN LANEAU '98

When the Covid-19 pandemic struck the Northeast in March 2020, Atrius Health, the largest independent physician group in Massachusetts, quickly reorganized its operations to triage and coordinate care for patients who were infected with the virus and those who were worried they might have it.

Among the people who took the lead in establishing what is considered the largest nursing-run Covid resource center in the Northeast were Nurse Manager **Ryan Gagnon '97** and Nurse Director for Clinical Informatics **Brian Laneau '98**. The home-based call center allowed a trained team of nurses to manage up to 4,000 calls and emails a day at the height of the surge.

"We recruited volunteers from across the organization to take this on," says Gagnon, who coordinated the training of 70 nurses when the call center was established. "We had to build it from the ground up."

That infrastructure is where Laneau came in. The plan was to send nurses home to work remotely, using a triage module to answer Covid-related questions and direct callers to next steps.

Both Gagnon and Laneau credit their own training at Saint Anselm with preparing them. Gagnon's varied career has taken him from pediatrics to diabetic nurse educator to nurse manager of a NICU. He has worked for Arnold Palmer Hospital in Florida, the University of Chicago Medical Center, and Boston Children's, with stops along the way. Laneau spent much of his career in various critical care nursing

posts at Tufts Medical Center, before finding his way to Atrius Health three years ago. Laneau remembers the open-door policies of Saint Anselm mentors, and how they helped to guide him.

"It's that holistic approach to the social, emotional, physical, and spiritual needs of people that prepared me," says Laneau. "Trying to meet the needs of patients [during this crisis] is grounded in some of those things from Saint Anselm."

Though both men were educated at Saint Anselm, and graduated a year apart, they did not meet until they landed at Atrius. Fate seems to have brought them together to lead the establishment of the Nursing Resource Center. Gagnon describes Laneau as the cog in the operation's wheel. When a change needs to be implemented due to ever-changing

CDC guidelines, it's Laneau who makes it happen.

"I'm the people person," says Gagnon. "Brian gets changes made behind the scenes and brings them to me so I can roll them out. Without him, this whole call center never would have happened."

The praise is mutual, as Laneau describes how Gagnon leads daily Zoom "huddles" with nursing staff to listen to concerns and implement ideas.

"He's good at breaking down barriers for people working at home and feeling alone," says Laneau. "He has the ability to bring people together."

Since the resource center opened on March 15, 2020, nurses have fielded more than 300,000 calls, replied to more than 10,000 emails, and ordered more than 90,000 Covid tests.

Gagnon and Laneau are part of an operation that now offers full Covid testing at multiple locations, a variety of virtual care options, and vaccine scheduling.

While fingers are crossed that the pandemic will subside soon, Gagnon and Laneau have learned the efficiencies of centralized care. Atrius is in the process of determining the call center's future, with a team of nurses who have accepted permanent positions.

"A centralized call center unrelated to Covid is the vision," says Gagnon. "A lot of the calls may seem like little things, but what makes me smile at the end of the day is knowing we made a difference."

BY JANA F. BROWN



From left:
Ryan Gagnon '97
and Brian Laneau '98.

Mass. In his new role, Colonero will oversee day-to-day activities in Auburn, Mass., while remaining as the division's director of sales and marketing, where he will continue to manage its regional sales force and marketing activities. Prior to this position he served in a variety of positions with the Auburn sales department for more than 20 years.

Kelly (Petix) Read was recently promoted to be the chief of staff for the chief information and security officer of Global Payments. She has worked in the technology and financial sector for most of her career. She and her husband Scott, and son Nicholas live in Georgia.

'98

John Albert has been appointed chief research officer for the Water Research Foundation (WRF) in Denver, Colo. He will contribute to the strategic direction of WRF as part of the senior management team and as director of research services and subscribers services.

Skip Stabile was re-elected to another four-year term on the North Plainfield, N.J. borough council. This will be his fifth term. He was also selected by his colleagues to fill the two-year position of council president for the fifth time.

Jessica Stitt has been appointed chief financial officer of Gyroscope Therapeutics Limited, a clinical-stage gene therapy company focused on diseases of the eye. Most recently, she served as the vice president of finance and operations for MyoKardia, Inc., a biopharmaceutical company developing targeted therapies for the treatment of serious cardiovascular diseases, which was acquired by Bristol Myers Squibb in 2020.

'00

Daniel J. Daly has written *The Structures of Virtue and Vice* (Georgetown University Press, 2021). He is an associate professor of moral theology in the School of Theology and Ministry at Boston College and has published widely on virtue ethics, ethics and social structures, and medical ethics. He is a former faculty member at Saint Anselm College.

'01

Bobby Aldrich has accepted an appointment as the director of operations and campus planning for the Hackley School in Tarrytown, N.Y. effective July 2021. In a senior leadership team position, he will oversee buildings and grounds, information technology, auxiliary programs, and food service, while also managing campus planning and construction projects as well as the school's sustainability initiatives.

Meredith K. Barrieau was presented with the William R. Snodgrass Distinguished Leadership Award from the Association of Government Accountants (AGA). She is first deputy auditor for the Office of the State Auditor (OSA) in Massachusetts. Prior to joining the OSA, she worked at PricewaterhouseCoopers for 10 years, as part of both the audit division and advisory consulting practice. She is a certified public accountant, certified fraud examiner, and is also certified in financial forensics.

'03

Patrick Cheetham was recognized by the *New Hampshire Union Leader's* annual "40 Under 40" list. He is police captain and services division commander for the Londonderry Police Department.

Troy Peters received his master's in athletic administration and leadership from Goucher College in Baltimore, Md., in the fall of 2020. He is the Covid crisis management coordinator and soccer coach for Maryvale Preparatory School in Lutherville, Md.

'04

Joseph Emmons was recognized by the *New Hampshire Union Leader's* annual "40 Under 40" list. He is chief development officer for Easterseals New Hampshire in Manchester.

Megan (Prieto) Giokas was recognized by the *New Hampshire Union Leader's* annual "40 Under 40" list. She is president of Granite Commercial Real Estate LLC, in Nashua, N.H.

'05

Benjamin Banner graduated *magna cum laude* from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University with a B.S. in spaceflight operations, along with minors in systems engineering and human factors. He is a candidate for the M.S. in space resources from the Colorado School of Mines and works as an electromechanical engineer at Northrop Grumman Corporation's Space Systems Division in Redondo Beach, Calif.

Keith Beauregard is assistant minor league field coordinator for the Los Angeles Dodgers. During the previous two baseball seasons, he was a minor league hitting instructor in the Dodgers' farm system, and previous to that he was an assistant baseball coach at Santa Clara University for five seasons, and two seasons at UMass Lowell.

Kathryn Horgan was recognized by the *New Hampshire Union Leader's* annual "40 Under 40" list. She is an associate with the Dupont Group in Concord, N.H. and executive director of N.H. Association of Counties.

BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS: CRAIG WELTON '03

When Northeast Arc's Center for Linking Lives opened in October 2020, it was a revolutionary milestone for the disability community. The state-of-the-art facility, located in the Liberty Tree Mall in Danvers, Mass., is surrounded by stores and restaurants and is easily accessible by public transportation, situating Northeast Arc's programs—and the people who participate in them—in the heart of the North Shore community.

"The Center for Linking Lives will have an exponential impact on folks who have been historically underrepresented in their communities," says **Craig Welton '03**, chief development officer at Northeast Arc. The organization's mission is to help people with disabilities become full participants in their communities. Northeast Arc provides a variety of resources to disabled people of all ages and their caregivers, including intervention services, support groups, recreation, and job training.

The Center houses Northeast Arc's community-facing programs and Parcels, a retail store that sells products made by people with disabilities. "The physical presence in the mall leads the change in normalizing interactions with people who have disabilities and in greater inclusion for the disability community," Welton says.

He first experienced the impact of inclusion as an undergraduate. The political science major took a service-learning elective during his junior year and spent time volunteering at the Sununu Youth Services Center in Manchester (formerly the Youth Development Center) as part of his coursework, helping young people with their studies.

"Service learning had a profound impact on me. I found it was important to get real-world



experience beyond the classroom," Welton says. "I also saw firsthand the meaningful, proactive change that you can have on someone's life."

His service-learning experience and an internship at the Washington Center in Washington, D.C., reinforced the importance of community activism. After graduation, Welton moved to California and began volunteering with Best Buddies International, an organization that promotes inclusive living for people with disabilities.

His volunteer experience led to a job offer, and Welton soon transferred to Best Buddies' Boston office, where he focused on college-level volunteer recruitment. Welton left the organization to pursue a master's in public administration from Northeastern University. He returned to Best Buddies as the state director of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, a role he held for a decade.

Welton became the chief development officer of Northeast Arc in 2018, where he oversees fundraising, public relations, and

marketing strategies. "I was attracted by [Northeast Arc's] reputation for innovation and the opportunity to work with a population in my own community," says Welton, who lives with his family on the North Shore.

Welton was instrumental in the development and opening of the Center for Linking Lives, and he guided the Center through the unforeseen disruptions of the Covid-19 pandemic. This included securing PPE for the organization, and when hand sanitizer dwindled, he turned to his Saint Anselm community, connecting with friend and former football teammate **Sergio Bonavita '03**, who owns Westfield River Brewing Co. in Southwick, Mass. Bonavita produced 300 gallons of hand sanitizer for Northeast Arc and surrounding service providers.

Welton, who was selected as *Boston Business Journal's* "40 Under 40" in 2020, credits his education for his creative problem-solving. "Saint Anselm encourages students to think outside the box and determine how they can make a difference in the world for other people," he says.

Welton hopes the Center for Linking Lives will serve as a blueprint for other communities looking to activate vacant retail space. Reflecting on the impact that the Center's services have on participants, he emphasizes that inclusion takes minimal effort but has resounding effects.

"It is really easy to include people and make a huge impact on someone's life," Welton says. "Your effort doesn't need to be a profound gesture, but you can move the needle in contributing to a more inclusive society."

BY BRIDGET (MARTIN) LAZZARA '11
PHOTO BY NOAH LEAVITT

'06

Matt Cahill was named to D2EastHoops.org Super 75 roster for his outstanding playing career in the competitive Northeast/East Region. He was a 2019 inductee into the Saint Anselm Athletics Hall of Fame, and was the all-time leading scorer for the men's basketball team until 2019.

'08

Cynthia Desmond was promoted to director of Instructional Technology and Design at Saint Anselm College. She completed a graduate certificate in Online Instructional Design and an M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction in January 2021.

'09

Brian Samble, Ph.D., has been named Dean of Students at Lafayette College in Easton, Pa., beginning in April 2021. He previously served as Assistant Dean of Student Affairs and Deputy Title IX Coordinator at Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, Pa.

'11

Chris McCarthy has been named associate director of Advancement & Alumni Engagement at Malden Catholic High School in Malden, Mass. Malden

Catholic is a private, college-preparatory school sponsored by the Xaverian Brothers since 1932. He previously worked as a senior account executive and business development manager for Grand Circle Corporation, a firm that specializes in travel, philanthropy, social entrepreneurship, and volunteerism. For the last five years, he worked in Tampa, Fla., further developing the company's constituent relationships and client base.

'13

Joseph Zucchi is a physician assistant and medical weight loss provider at Transition Medical Weight Loss in Salem, N.H. He is passionate about fitness, nutrition, and helping patients lose weight effectively and achieve optimal health. He is a member of the Obesity Medicine Association and is board-certified by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants.

'16

Matthew Rocheleau graduated from the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine in May 2020. He started in July at the Kent Hospital-Brown University Internal Medicine Residency Program in Warwick, R.I.

'17

Brad Rocheville recently passed the Massachusetts bar exam. He will begin his career as an attorney at the Boston law firm, Ropes and Gray LLP.

Amanda Starry has joined the regional accounting firm of Nathan Wechsler & Company in New Hampshire. She received her certificate in accounting from Southern New Hampshire University.

'19

Tim Guers was named to D2EastHoops.org Super 75 roster for his outstanding playing career in the competitive Northeast/East Region. He is the all-time leading scorer for the Saint Anselm College men's basketball team, and earned All-America honors from the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC), the Division II Conference Commissioner's Association (D2CCA), the Division II Bulletin and the *Basketball Times* in 2019. He was a key member of only the second Saint Anselm men's basketball team to appear in the Elite Eight.

'20

Katherine Buck is a merchandise assistant for TJX Companies, Inc., in Framingham, Mass.

'21

Michael Botsch has joined the University of Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) Teaching Fellows program, which serves underfunded and under-resourced Catholic schools across the United States. As part of this program, he will be obtaining his M.Ed. from Notre Dame over the next two summers and will be teaching 6-8 grade ELA at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School in Modesto, Calif., during the school year.

Haley Bragdon-Clements has joined the Saint Joseph Worker Program in Los Angeles, Calif., for a year of service. She will be working at Homeboy Industries, a gang rehabilitation and re-entry program, as the youth services coordinator at the youth re-entry site.

Adriana Fernandez is working as an undergraduate admissions counselor at Regis College in Weston, Mass.

Seana Grealey is a registered nurse in the cardiac unit at Southern Maine Health Care in Biddeford, Maine.

Tyler Gustafson is a customer relationship advocate at Fidelity Investments in Merrimack, N.H.

Morgan Sweeney is an applied behavioral analysis therapist for Northeast Arc in Danvers, Mass. She provides home behavioral healthcare to children with autism in Boston and the surrounding areas.

ART HISTORY THROUGH THE LENS OF THE SLAVE TRADE: CATHERINE DOUCETTE '18

At first glance, curating 18th-century decorative objects at Hunter House, a Georgian house in Newport, R.I., might seem like an interesting but perhaps esoteric, dusty affair. Yet, in the hands of Hunter House Research Fellow **Catherine Doucette '18**, every object, whether an ornate cabinet or a pewter porringer, tells a story that is urgently relevant in the here and now. Often, these stories relate to colonialism, the slave trade, and systemic power systems.

"We're shifting the focus away from the Eurocentric narrative that focuses on the role of white male craftsmen and property owners," says Doucette, who is working with a team to rearrange the historic house and create a new visitor experience for the public. "We're exploring Newport's place in the circum-Atlantic world and the many different people, both enslaved and free, who played a role in 18th-century Newport."

One of Doucette's many areas of research is mahogany furniture—chairs, clocks, and even bedframes. Rather than just focus on the wealthy patrons, Doucette poses questions like: What must it have been like for an enslaved laborer in the Caribbean to cut and log mahogany trees for export while working long hours in brutal heat? And how did the Caribbean influence the aesthetics of what we consider to be quintessentially New England furniture?

Doucette says she learned how to "read" and interpret objects—and ask endless questions—while studying art history at Saint Anselm College with Professor Katherine Bentz and Professor *Emerita* Katherine Hoffman, among others. The more she took classes, ranging from 19th-century art to Renaissance painting, the more Doucette saw the relevance and power of art history. She credits Professor



Bentz in particular for encouraging her to enter the art history playing field—which, she explains, "can be a competitive field."

Doucette's trajectory from Saint Anselm to Hunter House has been impressive. As she says with a laugh, "I've been up to quite a lot after I left the Hilltop."

After graduation, Doucette interned at the Cleveland Museum of Art where she catalogued Italian lace. Then it was off to The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, where she began working with British decorative arts. Doucette was instantly smitten. And so she honed in on this subject, getting her master's at the esteemed Courtauld Institute of Art in London, where she studied British material culture within the context of the entanglements and encounters of African, European, and American cultures during the period of transatlantic slavery and colonialism.

It was this line of inquiry that led her to Hunter House. And in the fall, Doucette will delve even deeper into

the subject when she heads to the University of Virginia for a Ph.D. program in Art & Architectural History, where she will focus on the material culture of colonial Jamaica.

"I am interested in learning how enslaved individuals used their artistic skills to survive slavery and create their own Afro-Creole forms of cultural expression within this formative period of history," says Doucette.

While her work focuses on the long 18th century, she sees a direct connection to contemporary struggles and the Black Lives Matter movement.

"Our society is figuring out how to deconstruct old power systems and create more diverse and inclusive spaces," she says.

And this is what makes Doucette's work so timely. By unearthing and amplifying untold stories of the marginalized, Doucette shows how an 18th-century mahogany chair can tell stories about power systems that we're still struggling to dismantle today.

BY RACHEL STRUTT

IN MEMORIAM

G. Arthur Danforth, Jr. '47, York, Maine, November 17, 2020.

Mary V. (Shea) Emery '51 (Mount Saint Mary), Mansfield, Mass., January 10, 2020.

Dorothy (Saltzgeber) Guenther '51 (Mount Saint Mary), Manchester, N.H., February 23, 2020.

Walter J. Mahoney '51, Wayne, Pa., January 3, 2021.

Sister Catherine Colliton '52 (Mount Saint Mary), Portsmouth, N.H., February 20, 2021.

William T. Dennehy '52, Manchester, N.H., January 4, 2021.

David Charles Drescher '52, Nashua, N.H., December 28, 2020.

Russell Howland '52, Lee, N.H., December 27, 2020.

John F. Ahearn '53, Manchester, N.H., April 10, 2021.

Gerard Pierre Jean, Jr. '53, Pacifica, Calif., December 7, 2020.

Edward F. Keeley '53, Manchester, Conn., February 24, 2021.

Louis O. Cote '55, North Andover, Mass., January 15, 2021.

Robert L.A. Cote '55, Cherry Plain, N.Y., December 14, 2020.

Thomas A. Dewire '55, San Diego, Calif., December 13, 2020.

Edward E. Dufresne '56, Barrington, R.I., April 2, 2021.

John F. Walsh '56, Brewster, Mass., November 27, 2020.

Eugene A. Rheault, D.M.D., '57, Manchester, N.H., December 19, 2020.

Paul Devin '59, Leominster, Mass., January 11, 2021.

Patrick Brendan Sweeney '59, The Villages, Fla., December 22, 2020.

Earle L. Sylvia '59, Mattapoisett, Mass., February 27, 2021.

George M. Cullen '60, Hampden, Mass., February 20, 2021.

Paul Emile Lamey '60, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., December 15, 2020.

Rev. Roger P. Bilodeau '61, Manchester, N.H., January 30, 2021.

Virginia (Noyes) Holbrook '63 (Mount Saint Mary), Manchester N.H., December 28, 2020.

John Lincourt '63, Charlotte, N.C., December 14, 2020.

James P. Rooney '63, Palmer, Mass., February 17, 2020.

Annette (Fulham) Kletter '64 (Mount Saint Mary), Boston, Mass., December 11, 2020.

Brian N. Jones '65, Bloomington, Ind., July 4, 2020.

Nancy Chagnon Wilson '65 (Mount Saint Mary), Dover, N.H., July 13, 2020.

Bryan T. McMullan '67, Agawam, Mass., February 7, 2021.

Joseph Powers '67, Boca Raton, Fla., June 27, 2020.

John E. "Jack" Cullity, Jr. '69, Manchester, N.H., February 4, 2021.

Joyce Roberts Smith '72, Manchester, N.H., November 16, 2020.

Michael P. Coburn '73, South Windsor, Conn., December 5, 2020.

Georgette Rita Pied '73, Salem, Mass., November 17, 2020.

Dawn P. Barrett '79, Palm Springs, Fla., January 26, 2021.

Julie Ann Dubiel '80, Manchester, N.H., and Pompano Beach, Fla., January 15, 2021.

Sister Anne Marie Harlow, SC '81, Wellesley Hills, Mass., December 8, 2020.

Elizabeth McSweeney '82, Foxboro, Mass., February 5, 2021.

William M. Flynn '87, Pittsfield, Mass., January 1, 2021.

Michael James Dupont '93, Bozeman, Mont., March 20, 2021.

FRIEND

Michael W. Smith, Ph.D., former faculty December 20, 2020.



Saint Anselm College
ALUMNI COUNCIL

Stay in Touch with the Alumni Council

The Alumni Council's role is to be ambassadors of the college, acting as the voice of the alumni and developing an environment of involved, active alumni across the country. The Council welcomes you to reach out with ideas or concerns that may be important to fellow alumni.

Kathleen Mahan '02, President k.mahan@clrm.com
Karen Clark '10, Vice President karen.clark724@gmail.com

MARRIAGES

Julie Byrne '06 and William Devin,
November 23, 2019, South Boston, Mass.

Laura Gerber '08 and Erik Whiting,
October 3, 2020, Taftville, Conn.

Amanda Hapenny '08 and **Gerald Cournoyer '09**, January 21, 2021,
Seattle, Wash.

Eileen Lynch '08 and Corey Duggan,
October 24, 2020, Peaks Island, Maine.

Kristina Graydon '09 and Patrick Clancy,
November 7, 2020, Saint Anselm Abbey Church.

Christine (Chrissy) Keane '09 and James Doughty, January 2, 2021, Concord, N.H.

Caitlin Costello '10 and Alberto Mendoza, October 10, 2020, West
Warwick, R.I.

Brian Hatch '12 and Michelle Helms,
October 17, 2020, Saint Anselm Abbey Church.

Bridget Garrity '14 and Nick Catania,
May 23, 2021, Saint Anselm Abbey Church.

Sarah Matson '14 and **Nicholas Wheeler '11**, October 24, 2020,
Saint Anselm Abbey Church.

Stacy Parker '15 and **Jeffrey Daddona '15**, September 19, 2020,
Westbrook, Conn.

Taylor Kirby '16 and **Trevor Voelker '19**,
September 19, 2020, Hanover, Mass.

Emily Mason '17 and **Matthew Guzzardi '17**, October 16, 2020,
Skaneateles, N.Y.

Elizabeth Torrey '17 and **Philip Lents '17**,
May 29, 2021, Saint Anselm Abbey Church.

Ashley Robichaud '18 and **Greg Williams '18**, June 20, 2020,
Saint Anselm Abbey Church.

Jordan Ezekiel '19 and John Brown,
January 9, 2021, Saint Anselm Abbey Church.

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85/85	6.5%
90/90	8.2%



Contact Peter M. Labombarde, CFSC
Senior Director for Gift Planning and Individual Gifts
(603) 641-7228; plabombarde@anselm.edu

FUTURE ANSELMIANs

Katherine (Durant) Bocchichio '98
and Michael, a son, Matthew Frederic,
December 7, 2020.

M. Katherine (Kate) Mulligan '99 and
Christopher Hogan, twin sons, Sean
Cloherty and Rory Paul, July 7, 2020.

Stephen McAllister '02 and Vanessa, a
daughter, Grace Susan, October 17, 2020.

Sheila (Osgood) Kolodzinski '03 and Jay,
a son, Jude Walter, December 5, 2020.

Erin (Siderko) Treseder '05 and Paul, a
son, Liam Patrick, March 23, 2021.

Barbara (Joslin) Galatis '06 and Dave, a
son, Theo Peter, October 1, 2020.

Amy (Regan) Gallant '07 and Bryan, a
daughter, Audrey, May 17, 2019.

Amy (Regan) Gallant '07 and Bryan, a
daughter, Diana, October 16, 2020.

Melissa (Jenkins) Latham '07 and John,
a son, Harrison Michael, February 7,
2020.

Meredith (Shepard) Barry '09 and
Michael Barry '09, a son, Shepard
Sullivan, June 12, 2020.

Sarah (Harrington) Goodhue '09
and Ben, a daughter, Charlotte Jane,
December 5, 2019.

Danielle (Lemoyne) French '10 and
Jeremy, a son, Jackson Nicholas, June 27,
2019.

Lucy (Weed-Eaton) Heyner '10 and
Mathew, a daughter, Emelia, June 20,
2020.

Hannah (Dubois) Boutselis '12 and
Michael Boutselis '10, a daughter,
Charlotte Ruth, July 25, 2020.

Elizabeth (Maccarone) Colella '12 and
Justin '12, a son, Tucker James, July 31,
2020.

Kate (Dowd) Tinsley '13 and **Chris Tinsley '13** a son, Edmond Joseph,
February 26, 2021.

Catherine (O'Doherty) Wormell '14 and
Ethan, a son, Henry James, February 11,
2020.

Elizabeth (Doyle) Mahan '15 and Keenan,
a daughter, Charlotte Leigh, December
31, 2020.

➔ End Note

On Sunday, May 16, the day following the commencement celebration for the Class of 2021, the college fulfilled a promise made to the Class of 2020, by bringing them back to campus for a celebration of their graduation.

Due to Covid-19, last year's commencement was held virtually, but President Favazza promised the students they would be back to walk across the stage like all Saint Anselm graduates before them.

"We promised we would bring you back to your home to give you the opportunity to walk across this platform, in front of (a few) family/friends just as thousands of Saint Anselm alumni have done," said Dr. Favazza. "While it has taken longer than any of us could have imagined when you departed campus on March 15, 2020, I am so pleased that we could deliver on this promise."

Photo by Lori Pedrick



BUILD A LEGACY

With a planned gift to Saint Anselm College, Alumni can leave a legacy at their *alma mater* and invest in future generations of Anselmians.

Alumni who give to Saint Anselm College through a bequest, life income gift, or estate plan are welcomed and celebrated as members of the college's 1889 Society.

Invest in Scholarships and Academics

Frank and Pauline Grasso, longtime supporters of the college, created a substantial endowed scholarship fund at Pauline's death last fall, in memory of their dear friend the late **Abbot Gerald McCarthy O.S.B., '36, H.D. '89**.

Barbara Robinson '69 left a generous bequest to the nursing program from her retirement plan.

Eugene Prior made a gift to the college in his will, in honor of his daughter, **Michelle Prior '89**.

We invite you to create your own legacy at Saint Anselm College.

To learn how to include your college in your will, trust, or retirement plan, contact:

Peter M. Labombarde, CFSC
Senior Director for Gift Planning
and Individual Gifts
(603) 641-7228
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